

Community Issues Report

SECOND QUARTER 2008

Meredith Corporation
WHNS FOX Carolina

07/1/08

Meredith Corporation WHNS Fox Carolina

COMMUNITY ISSUES

4/1/08 – 6/30/08

Consumer, Health & Safety

An interest in knowing about events that impact our daily lives. A need for information about how to be wise shoppers of goods and services and how to live healthy and safe lives.

Crime

A need to know about crime and law enforcement activities and a concern for personal safety.

Education

A concern about the money and skills needed to improve schools and an interest in improving student's quality of education.

Environment

A concern for how the environment is affected by human activity.

Government

An interest in how government affects our personal lives

Jobs/Economy/Growth

An interest in the local and national economic outlook and the impact growth has on our communities

Quality of Life

An interest in things that improve one's satisfaction with life.

The following pages list representative samples of program segments from The Ten O'clock Newscast, The News at 6:30 Newscast and The Morning Newscast during this quarter that respond to our ascertained issues. Each segment was 20 seconds to 3 minutes in length (except as otherwise reported).

The following pages also identify issue-responsive episodes of programs, which are listed under the appropriate issue.

WHNS also broadcasts public service announcements, news and weather cut-ins as needed to inform local community of breaking news and emergencies.

Attachments



Consumer, Health & Safety

**PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED
SECOND QUARTER 2008**

Problem/Need: **CONSUMER, HEALTH & SAFETY**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
Saturdays (airs weekly)	6:30am	TODAY'S HOMEOWNER

Description: A half-hour weekly television show that features information on how to maintain and improve your home, both inside and out. The approach to home improvement helps everyone from the experienced do-it-yourselfer to the first time homeowner. Projects are taken from start to finish in each weekly episode. (30:00)

April 1, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 1, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Gov. Mark Sanford wants a member of his security detail to be reassigned after the emergence of a video showing the former state trooper punching a suspect in the face. The 2006 video was one of three released Monday by the South Carolina Department of Public Safety. Officials said Lance Corp. E.J. Burton was ordered to undergo counseling and was later assigned to Sanford's detail. Sanford spokesman Joel Sawyer said the governor will ask that Burton be reassigned. Highway Patrol Col. Russell Roark and Public Safety Director James Schweitzer resigned earlier this year after a video surfaced showing a trooper use a racial slur while chasing a black suspect. Sanford has said that trooper should have been fired. The video is just one of several that have been released in recent weeks showing troopers, among other things, hitting suspects with their cruisers and kicking other suspects in the face. Highway patrol officials have said the videos only represent a small number of the thousands of interactions the public has with troopers every year.

April 16, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 16, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: A Wisconsin watchdog group claims organic baby formula commonly uses ingredients that are prohibited by federal regulations and wants the government to stop the practice. That watchdog group, called the Cornucopia Institute, also alleges that the ingredients -- omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids also known as DHA and ARA, respectively - are linked to side effects in infants such as diarrhea and vomiting. The manufacturer of the ingredients, Martek Biosciences of Columbia, Md., says there is no evidence that the products lead to the side effects. And it argues that the fatty acids are allowed in organic products. DHA and ARA are commonly found in infant formula, and are marketed as a way to help promote eye and brain development in infants - another claim that Cornucopia is challenging with a separate complaint to the Federal Trade Commission. Both fatty acids are found naturally in breast milk. In the organic complaint, filed this week, Cornucopia is asking the U.S. Department of Agriculture to remove all organic products with the ingredients from store shelves, and prohibit companies from using the ingredients in products labeled as organic. Cornucopia, a farm policy group, based in Cornucopia, Wis., says that DHA and ARA should not be considered organic because they are extracted from algae and fungus using a toxic solvent called hexane. It says that organic regulations ban the use of hexane in processing organic foods and ingredients. Martek spokeswoman Cassie France-Kelly countered that DHA and ARA are allowed under the regulations as "accessory nutrients." She also said there is no detectable level of hexane in the ingredients. A

similar complaint was filed back in 2006 by a Columbus, Ohio, attorney, David G. Cox, on behalf of a confidential client. The USDA dismissed the complaint last year, concluding "the addition of these accessory nutrients is acceptable in organic infant formulations." In its complaint, Cornucopia said the USDA's compliance officer in that case misunderstood or misrepresented the organic regulations, and urged a thorough investigation of its complaint. "What we're seeing is the latest in a long string of USDA actions that blatantly cater to industry interests at the expense of consumer safety," said Mark Kastel, Cornucopia's co-director. USDA spokeswoman Joan Shaffer said the agency has received the complaint and is reviewing it. The American Academy of Pediatrics has not taken a position on whether DHA and ARA should be added to infant formula. But Dr. Frank Greer, who chairs the academy's committee on [nutrition](#), said he didn't think it was necessary, except for premature babies. "The truth of the matter is, they're not essential," said Greer, a professor of pediatrics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, who stressed he was speaking for himself. "Humans can synthesize these. Fatty acids are naturally present in the [diet](#). And the whole issue becomes, do you make really make people smarter if you put DHA and ARA in everything? Or is this just all marketing hype? Personally, I lean toward the latter."

May 8, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 8, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: A consumer advocacy group petitioned the government Thursday to pull the birth-control patch off the market, calling it far riskier than the pill. "Ortho-Evra is a poor choice for women," Dr. Sidney Wolfe of Public Citizen wrote the Food and Drug Administration. Warnings about the Ortho-Evra weekly patch have escalated since a 2005 investigation by The Associated Press found patch users suffer higher rates of life-threatening blood clots than women who take birth-control pills. Blood clots are a rare side effect for estrogen-related products. Some, but not all, studies of the risk suggest patch users have twice the risk of clots in the legs and lungs as do women who swallow the pill, because patients absorb up to 60 percent more estrogen via the patch. The FDA updated Ortho-Evra's label in 2005, 2006 and earlier this year with clot warnings. Demand has dropped, from about 9.9 million prescriptions filled in 2004 to 2.7 million filled in 2007, Wolfe wrote. But Wolfe argued that the patch offers no better contraception in return for the extra risk. And he said lawsuits by women who claim they were harmed by the patch have unearthed two previously unpublished studies from New Brunswick, N.J.-based Johnson & Johnson researchers that found higher estrogen exposure from the patch even before it won FDA approval in 2001. A spokeswoman for patch maker Ortho Women's Health & Urology, a J&J company, said "Ortho-Evra is a safe and effective hormonal birth control option when used according to its labeling. "Hormonal birth control methods have benefits and risks," said Gloria Vanderham. "The approved labeling has always stated the known risks associated with its use." The FDA said it has not had an opportunity to review the petition and, when it does, it will respond directly to Public Citizen. Despite the risk, Wolfe said abruptly cutting off users could result in unwanted pregnancies. So he urged the FDA to phase out patch sales with a six-month period during which existing users could only get refills, allowing them time to switch to another contraceptive.

May 12, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 12, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: An extra penny for your thoughts. Mailing a letter costs a penny more this week, with the [price](#) of a first-class stamp rising to 42 cents Monday. But people who planned ahead and bought Forever stamps for 41 cents each can still use them without extra postage. Forever stamps also went up to 42 cents, but buyers may want to [stock](#) up anyway, looking ahead to next May when prices are expected to be adjusted again. The cost to mail a post card will also went up a penny, to 27 cents. Other new rates: -Large envelope, 2 ounces, \$1, up 3 cents. Certified mail, \$2.70, up 5 cents. First-class international letter to Canada or Mexico, 72 cents, up 3 cents. First-class international letter to other countries, 94 cents, up 4 cents. Priority mail flat-rate envelope, \$4.75, up 25 cents. Express mail flat-rate envelope, \$16.50, up 25 cents. Postage rates last went up in May 2007, with a first-class stamp jumping 2 cents to 41 cents. Under the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act, mailing prices will be adjusted annually each May, according to the U.S. Postal Service. Customers will be notified 90 days before the price changes each year.

May 16, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 16, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: [Gas prices](#) have climbed big-time. A nationwide survey found that the average for self-serve regular has climbed 17 cents from two weeks ago to \$3.79 a gallon. Analyst Trilby Lundberg said that's 61 cents higher than it was about a year ago. Lundberg said for the first time, the average price for regular has topped \$4 in two metropolitan areas. It's \$4.07 a gallon in Chicago, which had the nation's highest average price, and \$4.01 on New York's Long Island. The analyst said the national average for regular could reach \$4.00 or more in a few weeks. Of the cities surveyed, the cheapest price was in Tucson, Ariz., where a gallon of regular cost \$3.48 on average. Oil prices rose Monday on the news of \$4-a-gallon gas. Investors brushed off news of increased production from Saudi Arabia on Friday, the same day oil prices punched through another per-barrel trading record. The world's leading oil producer promised an additional [300,000](#) barrels of crude a day as President George W. Bush wrapped up a meeting Friday with Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah. But that and the U.S. move to temporarily stop filling government stockpiles did little to restrain soaring prices. Back Yard Oil: An Indiana man is capitalizing on high crude oil prices with his own oil well -- in his back yard; Greg Losh said the well that produces three barrels of oil a day is "a money-maker."; He said it comes from the Trenton oil field that fueled growth in east-central Indiana more than a century ago; He said it costs about \$100,000 to drill an oil well, but that at today's prices, it's worth it; Losh expects to drill four more wells on his property in the town of Selma, about 55 miles northeast of Indianapolis; He said the oil is stored in a tank and transported to Ohio for sale. The well also produces natural gas to heat his home and several others.

May 19, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 19, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: First the good news: The worst of the painful housing slump and the credit crunch might come to an end this year. Now the bad: The economy will weaken further and unemployment will rise. That's the latest outlook from forecasters in a [survey](#) by the National Association for Business Economics. A growing number of economists believe the country is on the brink of a recession or in one already, dragged down by all the problems in housing, credit and financial markets. Fifty-six percent of the economists surveyed think the economy has started or will enter a recession this year. That's up from 45 percent in a survey in February. The economists forecasting recession think it will probably be short and shallow. President George W. Bush on Monday is expected to get a cautiously upbeat report on the economy from his treasury chief. Just back from a week in the Mideast, the president will hear what Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson told [business](#) executives while he was away. Paulson said the country is "closer to the end of the market turmoil than the beginning." He said financial markets are "considerably calmer" than they were just two months ago. One hopeful sign is that new home construction last month jumped by its biggest margin in two years. Yet, other economic measures are still way down, especially consumer confidence. Amid rising gas and food prices, that's now at its lowest level in 28 years.

May 28, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 28, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: A trend at the supermarket has shoppers paying more money for less food, Portland station KPTV reported. Several brands have scooped away the amount of ice cream consumers get for their money. Companies like Breyers and Dreyer's said they've had to shrink packaging to avoid raising their prices. A comparison of two ice cream cartons shows a newer carton holding 1.5 quarts of ice cream, compared to an older carton holding 1.75 quarts. The cartons cost the same and most shoppers haven't noticed. "The package looks the same, but the content is less," said shopper Owen Stephens. The trend isn't limited to just ice cream. Shoppers will find 45-ounce butter containers, compared to older 48-ounce containers they found on grocery store shelves in the past. Companies said the reason behind the packaging changes is because of a price increase in food. The price of milk has risen about 26 percent in the last year and the cost of eggs is up 40 percent. When dairy products cost more to produce, they cost more for shoppers. And while those prices rise, the container size may drop.

June 2, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
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June 2, 2008

5:00a-9:00am

The Morning News

Description: A new state law is allowing South Carolina residents to protect more of their personal property from creditors. More debtors can now keep their cars, cash and other valuables if sued by creditors or if they file for protection in U.S. Bankruptcy Court. The biggest changes are in car value, now \$5,000 instead of \$1,200, and in cash, up from \$1,000 to \$5,000, that borrowers can keep if they have bad debt judgment. Sumter Republican Rep. Murrell Smith said the exemption values had not been increased since 1981. He said law makers increased the exemption on homes in 2006Gov. Mark Sanford vetoed the bill, saying it made no distinction between people who had an unforeseen setback and those who were financially irresponsible. Lawmakers overrode Sanford's veto last month.

June 5, 2008

10:00pm

The Ten O'clock News

June 5, 2008

5:00a-9:00am

The Morning News

Description: Simmons Kids has recalled about 20,000 crib mattresses because they may not meet minimum size requirements. That could create a gap between the mattress and the crib in which children could get stuck. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission said in a news release that some of the mattresses measure smaller than the 27.25-inch minimum width requirement for cribs. The agency and the company have one report of a 6-month-old baby getting stuck, though the child was not hurt. The recall involves open coil crib mattresses manufactured between July 1, 2006, and March 23, 2008, with a label attached to the top or side of the mattress that has the following model names: Pottery Barn Kids by Simmons Kids Lullaby; Simmons Kids Slumber Time Evening Star Luxury Firm; Simmons Kids Baby Mattress Series 400; Simmons Kids Baby Mattress 234 Coil Count. The crib mattresses also have a law tag that is sewn into the edge of the mattress. The law tag has the date of manufacture and in most cases will contain one of the following model numbers: H59044.15.0014, M59082.15.0002, M59027.15.0002 or M59065.15.0006. They were sold at Pottery Barn Kids and nursery furniture retailers from July 2006 through May 2008 for between \$100 and \$150. The CPSC said owners should measure the mattresses without any coverings, checking the middle from the outside edge of the tape binding, with the mattress on the floor. If it is less than 27.25 inches, they should stop using it and contact Simmons Kids for a free replacement. Consumers can call Simmons Kids at 800-810-8611 or visit SimmonsKids.com.

June 11, 2008

10:00pm

The Ten O'clock News

June 11, 2008

5:00a-9:00am

The Morning News

Description: Some Greenville-area restaurants said Tuesday they are taking [tomatoes](#) off their menu because of the recent salmonella scare. In downtown, Cornbread to Caviar chef Bill McClelean said his restaurant just is not willing to take a chance on making their customers sick. McClelean said a lot of the problem is that the food officials are concerned about is tainted by the time it gets to his restaurant. "One of the main sources of contamination is how people handle the food," McClelean said. "This is out of your control because it's already contaminated by the time it gets to us." For now, McClelean said he will just have to be a bit savvy when it comes to cooking food that calls for plump, red tomatoes. "It allows us to be more creative," McClelean said. "We are roasting red peppers and putting that on sandwiches and salads." However, some restaurants said they are confident their tomatoes are safe to eat. "We sell a lot of cheeseburgers and people do like their tomatoes on their cheeseburgers," said Rocky Smith, owner of Dawgs on Pelham. Smith said when he first heard about the concerns over the food, he talked to his suppliers. He said they told him that his tomatoes are not tainted. Some patrons said they cannot imagine having a burger without a tomato. "I love tomatoes and I'll take the risk," said Dee Hughes,

one of Dawgs' patrons. Currently, South Carolina has not been linked to the salmonella outbreak by the Food and Drug Administration.

June 18, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 18, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: South Carolina Lt. Gov. Andre Bauer is updating efforts by elderly advocates to stop scammers from robbing the state's seniors. Bauer has called a news conference on Friday to discuss progress made by his office's task force on senior fraud. The state Office on Aging said hundreds of scam victims have called an 800 number since the announcement last month. Callers are directed to agencies that can help them. The partnership includes prosecutors, the AARP, banks, law enforcement, and the state Revenue and Consumer Affairs departments. Lexington resident Sarah Cooper will share her family's experience. Her elderly father suffering from Alzheimer's was scammed out of thousands of dollars over several months.

June 20, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 20, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: The Greenville-area Crime Stoppers may not be the big phone operation most people would expect. Currently it's a corner office with two people at a time answering phones. However, the organization gathers tips from people wanting to help solve a crime. Crime Stopper Tony Lee said he has been working 12-hour days to take in phone calls on a recent rape case, FOX Carolina News reported. "We may get 20 to 30 to 40 calls per day. It keeps us very busy because once you get the call, it's got to be documented and sent to an investigator to be followed up on," said Lee. "The calls we get that we feel are legitimate on this particular case, are the ones who say they have seen the sketch and they feel like the person they know looks a lot like this person." So far, Lee said none of the calls have led to an arrest in the rape case. But he said the tips have been helpful in narrowing the search for the assailant. "A lot of them that we've passed on to the sheriff's office have ruled the people out as suspects," said Lee. Lee said in the last couple of days the phones have stopped ringing, and leads in the rape case have gone cold. Only six calls came in on Thursday. "It has slowed down the last couple of days since the assault occurred on June 8," said Lee. With cash rewards on the table for tips leading to an arrest, Crime Stoppers said they hope the community will continue to use a phone to help solve crime. "We've arrested over 5,000 people now through the program and we've had over 20,000 calls into this office - that's just calls that have been documented." For more information on the program, or to report information on a crime of any kind, please call 864-23-CRIME or 864-232-7463.

June 24, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 24, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: About 320,000 cribs sold at Toys R Us, Babies R Us, KidsWorld and Geoffrey Stores may not be safe. The maker, Jardine Enterprises, recalled them because wooden crib slats and spindles can break, creating a gap, which can pose an entrapment and strangulation hazard to infants. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission said that there have been 42 incidents of crib slats and spindles breaking. Four children became entrapped in the space. Two of the children had abrasions and bruising. Many different styles and finishes are included in the recall, and a full list can be found [at JardineCribRecall.com](http://atJardineCribRecall.com). The cribs were sold January 2002 through May 2008 for between \$150 and \$300. One model, the Mahogany Positano Lifetime Crib, sold for \$450. A news release said consumers should immediately stop using the recalled cribs and contact Jardine to receive a full credit toward the purchase of a new crib. Owners can call Jardine at (800) 646-4106 or visit the Web site for more information.

June 25, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 25, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: The central bank announced Wednesday that it was keeping the federal funds rate, the interest rate that banks charge each other, at 2 percent, marking the first time in 10 months that the Fed has failed to reduce

[interest rates](#) at one of its regular meetings. The Fed is confronted with the twin perils of a possible recession and rising inflation pressures, stemming from this year's surge in oil and food prices. On Wall Street, stocks traded higher in advance of the Fed's announcement as investors took comfort in a big drop in the price of crude oil following a government report that U.S. supplies of fuel and oil were larger than expected last week. The opposing forces of weak growth and recession put the central bank in a bind. Its main policy tool -- changes in interest rates - can only address one of those problems at a time. The Fed can cut interest rates to spur consumer and business spending and economic growth or it can raise interest rates to slow spending and growth and ease inflation pressures. From September through April, the Fed aggressively cut interest rates seven times in an effort to keep a severe credit crunch and prolonged housing slump from pushing the country into a deep recession. However, after a series of sizable rate cuts as the credit crisis was roiling global financial markets at the beginning of this year, the Fed at its last meeting in April reduced rates by a more modest quarter-point. That pushed the federal funds rate, the interest that banks charge each other, down to 2 percent. The funds rate had been at 5.25 percent before the central bank began cutting rates on Sept. 18.

June 26, 2008

10:00pm

The Ten O'clock News

June 26, 2008

5:00a-9:00am

The Morning News

Description: A new language being spoken by millions of people across the world is prompting North Carolina officials to offer free replacement license plates to about 10,000 drivers. People who use text messaging know that there is a type of pseudo-language that is not spoken, but typed on a cell phone. With phrases like LOL (laughing out loud) or BRB (be right back), this language is usually best understood by the younger, more tech-savvy generation. So it comes as no surprise that a 60-year-old North Carolina woman was not LOL when her grandchildren told her what the WTF on her license plate meant to texters – what the f***! It was that grandmother's complaint that caused North Carolina officials to notify those nearly 10,000 [car](#) owners with that combination of letters on their plates that they could get a replacement plate at no charge. Most teenagers admit they think this is funny, but said it is easy to understand the confusion. "I'd probably laugh about it at first," said 18-year-old Chris Arguelles, of Hendersonville. "You can say anything by shortening everything because everybody is too lazy to write out the whole words," said 16-year-old texter Keith Kilpatrick. Entire Web sites have been dedicated to translating these seemingly meaningless letter combinations. "IDK is I don't know or IDC is I don't care. JK is one I use often," said Arguelles. JK means "just kidding," but one person wasn't kidding around when he expressed his feelings about texting. "I'm not a fan of texting," said Larry Keith, a guitar teacher from Hendersonville. "It's kind of an impersonal way to communicate." Keith said all too often his students are distracted from their music lessons by their cell phones. "If their left hand was as fast as their thumbs, they'd be wonderful guitar players," said Keith. Officials said WTF was apparently the first letter combination available when the Department of Motor [Vehicles](#) switched from blue to red letters on the license plates.

Attachments



Crime

**PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED
SECOND QUARTER 2008**

Problem/Need: **CRIME**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
Saturdays	8:00pm	COPS
Saturdays (airs weekly)	8:30pm	COPS
Monday – Friday	1:00pm	COPS
Monday – Friday	1:30pm	COPS

DESCRIPTION: COPS follows law enforcement officers as they answer calls and deal with the subjects and victims involved in the complaints and crimes. (30:00)

Saturdays (airs weekly)	9:00pm	AMERICA'S MOST WANTED
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DESCRIPTION: AMERICA'S MOST WANTED is hosted by John Walsh. The show profiles fugitives and wanted criminals who are being sought by federal, state, or local authorities. The program gives viewers a phone number to call to provide information. (60:00)

Saturdays (airs weekly)	2:30am	MISSING
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DESCRIPTION: Missing is a weekly half-hour reality series featuring actual cases of missing individuals, both adult and juvenile, from across the United States. (30:00)

Monday – Sunday	10:00 pm	FOX CAROLINA'S MOST WANTED
Monday – Friday	5:00a-9:00am	

DESCRIPTION: The FOX Carolina's Most Wanted airs during the Ten O'clock News on various nights Monday thru Sunday and The Morning News Monday thru Friday. Each segment profiles locally wanted criminals and gives viewers a phone number to call to provide information. Each segment is 45 seconds.

April 1, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 1, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Deputies said a mother let her 23-year-old boyfriend beat up her 16-month-old son leaving him black and blue. Deputies said 26-year-old Stacy Roenapagel told them she allowed 23-year-old Daniel Chapman Jr. to beat her baby boy. Investigators said Chapman hit the baby and squeezed the boy's face with his hand. The child was left with bruises on both sides of his face, deputies said. Both Roenapagel and Chapman were charged with child abuse. "Both of them had knowledge of this, that it had occurred," said Laurens County Sheriff Ricky Chastain. "Regardless of which one did it, both of them were there together." Roenapagel and Chapman were being held at the Laurens County Detention Center.

April 14, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 14, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Police arrested two people on Friday night in connection with the death of a woman whose hands and feet were cut off and found in front of two homes earlier this week. Police arrested 24-year-old Clarence Jenkins Jr. and his wife, 20-year-old Carman Jenkins, and charged them with the death of 34-year-old Mekole Harris. Authorities said that Harris' hands and feet were cut off, put in bags and placed in front of two different locations in Greenville on Monday. The first location was an apartment at the corner of Cleveland and Farris streets. The second location was an abandoned home on Rose Avenue. Police said they have not found Harris' body yet, but they are working under the assumption that she is dead. According to arrest warrants, evidence found inside the Jenkins' home linked them to the scenes where the severed hands and feet were found. Both were being held at the Greenville County Detention Center

April 15, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 15, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Authorities said dogs searching the area behind the home of a couple charged with killing and dismembering a woman did not find any more of her remains Monday. Investigators are looking for more remains of Mekole Harris, 34, whose severed arms and feet were found in bags last week at two Greenville homes. Police have charged Clarence Jenkins Jr., 24, and Carman Major Jenkins, 20, with murder in connection to the discovered body parts. Authorities said a report of human remains Monday and the search by the dogs did not pan out. Investigators said they are still trying to determine a motive for Harris' killing.

April 15, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 15, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The grandmother of a woman who's slaying police said was covered up when the crime scene was set on fire is raising money for a reward in the case. "(Officials) said something about this house burning and my granddaughter lived there. I jumped up and ran out the door. I started screaming, and I don't remember anything after that," Maxine Kennedy said. Her granddaughter, Crystal Bradshaw, lived on Northbrook Street in Boiling Springs for only four months. "They murdered her, and then they burned the only thing she worked for down," Kennedy said, crying. Detectives with the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office said someone beat Crystal to death, then tried to cover up the murder by setting the house on fire. "The killer is still out there and we're just looking for some closure," Kennedy said. Kennedy said she wants to breathe new life into the investigation by talking to neighbors. She's asking for donations to go toward a reward in the case. "We're going to continue to fight for her," Kennedy said. People with information on the case were urged to call Spartanburg CrimeStoppers at 864-58-CRIME (864-582-7463).

April 16, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 16, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Police arrested the driver of one of the cars who they say hit and killed a Greer man on Tuesday night. Police said 32-year-old Emilio Edwards, of Landrum, turned himself in to officers on Wednesday night. They said he identified himself as the driver of the tan-colored sedan that hit 58-year-old Gary Pope. Edwards has been charged with hit-and-run with great bodily injury or death and driving under suspension. Pope was walking home from a local restaurant when he crossed Highway 101 near Harvey Road. Police said that was when the sedan hit Pope, knocking him to the ground. They said another car then struck Pope. Neither car stopped. Pope was killed as a result of the crashes. Police said they are still searching for the second car, which is described as a dark-colored SUV. Investigators asked anyone with information about the second vehicle involved in the crash to call the Greer Police Department at 864-848-2151. Edwards was being held at the Greer Police Department on a \$22,100 bond.

April 18, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 18, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Department of Correction officials said an inmate at the Tyger River Correctional Institution died after he was stabbed during a fight with other prisoners. Officials said 25-year-old Tommie Wilson got into a fight with other inmates around 3:30 p.m. on Thursday. They said one of the prisoners pulled out a sharp object and stabbed Wilson. Prison workers tried to resuscitate Wilson, but he

was pronounced dead around 4 p.m., officials said. Officials said Wilson's death is still under investigation. Wilson was serving a 15-year prison sentence for several crimes including assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, trafficking crack cocaine, distributing crack near a school and manufacturing crack.

April 22, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 22, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Police are hoping a new ordinance will help curb the problem of vandalism in their city. The Mauldin City Council voted Monday night to pass an ordinance that punishes anyone who damages property, especially graffiti artists. The rule would require anyone who is caught vandalizing property to pay a \$500 fine or spend 30 days in jail. Police said gangs and skateboarders are the main offenders and that they are spray-painting everything from apartment buildings to businesses. "You see gang graffiti, or just regular graffiti on a sign or back of a sign or on a billboard on the side of the road," said Mauldin Police Chief Bryan Turner. "It is something that makes you step back and wonder if this is the place you want to live." The ordinance also requires property owners to remove graffiti found on their property.

April 22, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 22, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The acting U.S. attorney for [South Carolina](#) said a teenager accused of planning to bomb his high school will face a federal charge of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction. The charge carries a possible life sentence, prosecutors said. Prosecutor Kevin McDonald said Tuesday that 18-year-old Ryan Schallenberger also will face two lesser federal charges stemming from his scheme to detonate explosives in a suicide attack on his high school. The news came less than an hour before Schallenberger was to appear in a Chesterfield courtroom for a bond hearing. Schallenberger was arrested Saturday after his parents called police because he had ordered 10 pounds of ammonium nitrate. Police say they also discovered a hate-filled journal lauding the Columbine killers

April 24, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 24, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: A prosecutor released more details Tuesday of a plot in which an 18-year-old planned to bomb his high school. Prosecutor Jay Hodge said Ryan Schallenberger's journal contained an entry made last month. It included a timeline for an attack that detailed how he would lock his school's doors and where he would place more than five explosives in the building. Authorities have said Schallenberger could have assembled deadly bombs within minutes with the materials they found. Police said they also saw the bombing plans in the journal, including a hand-drawn map of the school. They said the hate-filled diary also lauded the Columbine killers. Police said they found an audiotape that Schallenberger wanted played after he died. Schallenberger was arrested Saturday after his parents called police because he had ordered 10 pounds of ammonium nitrate through eBay. Ammonium nitrate is a fertilizer that was a component in the deadly 1995 [Oklahoma City](#) bombing.

April 26, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 27, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The teenage son of one of the victims of a quadruple homicide on Saturday was arrested and charged in connection with the crime, deputies said. The shooting happened at 153 Pine Lake Drive around 9 a.m. Neighbors said they heard about six gunshots. Then they noticed a man lying partially in a ditch who appeared to be badly injured. They said the

man later died. Investigators said after they secured a search warrant for the home, they went inside and found the bodies of two females and another male. The four victims have been identified as 46-year-old Samuel Dickson, 46-year-old Martiza Hurtado Dickson, 19-year-old Melissa Jilian Salazar, 14-year-old Taylor Dickson. All four victims had been shot to death, investigators said. Deputies said around 8 p.m. Saturday night, 18-year-old Nathaniel Dickson was arrested in Belton. He is the son of Samuel Dickson. Nathaniel Dickson has been charged with four counts of murder and other charges are pending, deputies said. Deputies would not comment on a motive and said there are no other suspects in the case. Nathaniel Dickson was being held at the Anderson County Detention Center and has a court appearance scheduled for 5 p.m. Sunday. Investigators said this is Anderson County's first quadruple homicide and only the second such case in [South Carolina](#). Stay with FOX Carolina and foxcarolina.com for the latest on this developing story.

May 2, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 2, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Mauldin police are using a new tool to help fight crime and are offering the free service to their residents. The service, called Linking Communities, sends an alert about crime in the area to people's cell phones and in-boxes. It also sends alerts about missing people, wanted criminals and severe weather. Investigators said the service helps them do their jobs. Most parents said they think the service is a good idea. "It will help us alert our children if they're out playing at the park or riding bicycles," said Joan Benton, a Mauldin resident. "We can call them on the cell phone and tell them to come home." Police said for more information residents can visit the Linking Communities Web site at www.linkingcommunities.com.

May 2, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 2, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Authorities are looking for an inmate who escaped from the Rutherford Correctional Facility early Friday morning. According to the North Carolina Department of Corrections, 43-year-old James Burns escaped from the prison around 4:20 a.m. Friday. Authorities said Burns has blond hair that is shaved on both sides of his head. He also has a pony tail on top. Burns was serving a four-month prison sentence on an assault charge. He was booked into the jail on March 19. Officials asked anyone with information on Burns whereabouts to call 911 immediately.

May 5, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 5, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The witness to a carjacking on Monday morning said the victim was hit in the face and collapsed on his doorstep. Police swarmed the area around North Line and Oak streets on Monday morning looking for the person who beat a driver and then stole his car. Investigators said the robber jumped in front of the victim's car asking for help. The victim told police that the carjacker pulled out a knife and then reached inside the car, grabbed the victim's bat and hit him in the face. The witness to a carjacking on Monday morning said the victim was hit in the face and collapsed on his doorstep. Police swarmed the area around North Line and Oak streets on Monday morning looking for the person who beat a driver and then stole his car. Investigators said the robber jumped in front of the victim's car asking for help. The victim told police that the carjacker pulled out a knife and then reached inside the car, grabbed the victim's bat and hit him in the face. The thief pulled the driver out of the car and then drove away. The car was found abandoned in Spartanburg County a few hours later. Robert Antley said he saw the whole thing happen. He said the victim walked up to his house and collapsed on his doorstep. "It's kind of heartbreaking," said Antley. "I have six children. To know that there is this (type of crime) in this part of the neighborhood, it's heartbreaking." Police asked anyone with information about this case to call the Greer Police Department.

May 12, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 12, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The South Carolina Department of Corrections says it doesn't have enough money to operate the state's prisons through the end of the year. And it wants to run a \$4.3 million deficit. The department last ran a deficit in the 2004 fiscal year totaling \$23.7 million. Since the last recession in 2001, it has run a total of \$57.5 million in the red. The state Budget and Control Board will hear a request to run a deficit when it meets Tuesday. The shortfall could be made up by surpluses elsewhere or tapping into state reserve cash. The agency has a state budget of \$336 million. Medical care, food and fuel costs are up \$8 million this year, officials said. Agency spokesman Josh Gelinas said the medical costs have increased with an aging prison population. The department spends \$1.43 daily to feed each inmate.

May 16, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 16, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Deputies said thieves stole 245 bronze vases from gravesites at an Anderson County cemetery late Wednesday night. The thefts happened at the Forest Lawn Cemetery on Highway 29 North. Some people who have family buried at the cemetery showed up Thursday to check their relatives' graves. Janet Tant said her mother's bronze vase is still there, but the chain is missing. Deputies said that could mean the thieves plan to come back and steal it later. Billy Nixon, who also has relatives buried in the cemetery, said the same thing happened last year. He said the robbers stole less than 100 vases that time. "For somebody to stoop that low, that's pretty bad," Nixon said. Deputies said something similar happened in Greenville County at the Woodlawn Cemetery. They two counties are working together to determine if the incidents might be connected. Deputies said they are also searching local scarp yards in an effort to find the missing vases valued at \$50,000.

May 22, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 22, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Anderson County Sheriff David Crenshaw said his deputies broke up the largest methamphetamine lab in the county's history on Tuesday night. Crenshaw said his office received an anonymous tip led them to a home on Roys Road just off Highway 86. Crenshaw said the lab was capable of producing up to a pound of the highly-addictive drug. He said an ounce of the substance would go for \$800 on the street. That means the lab was capable of producing \$12,800 worth of methamphetamine. Neighbors said they were not surprised deputies found a major drug operation at the home. "I knew it was going to happen and I'm thankful it did," said Robert McPeake Sr. who lives nearby. "They'd burn leaves and stuff to try and kill the smell." Cleanup crews were at the home all day Wednesday cleaning up the chemicals and equipment used to make methamphetamine. Crenshaw said no one has been arrested in the case. However, he said the case is still under investigation.

June 12, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 12, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Deputies posted sketches all over Greenville of the man believed to be responsible for the rape of a jogger, hoping the public will help solve the case. Investigators said on Sunday morning a 19-year-old woman was jogging in the Terra Pines subdivision off Hudson Road when a man approached her from behind and hit her. The woman fell down an embankment, deputies said. Deputies said the attacker then jumped on top of the victim and started beating her. He sexually assaulted her and then ran away, they said. The victim ran to a house nearby and called for help. FOX Carolina found the attacker's sketch on lampposts, in gas stations and even on trees near the scene of the rape. Deputies released that sketch on Monday. On Tuesday, deputies said a light-colored, newer-model minivan may have driven by the area when the rape happened. They said the victim told them that she saw the van driving by as she walked up the embankment to get help. On Wednesday, deputies showed off a pair of shorts similar to the ones that the victim told them her attacker was wearing. Deputies

described the shorts as longer in length with a yellow and green plaid pattern on them. The victim told deputies her attacker was also wearing a white tanktop and had short twists in his hair. Anyone with information on this case was asked to call Crime Stoppers at 23-CRIME.

June 19, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 19, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The brother of a North Carolina trooper killed during a traffic stop Tuesday night reflected on his big brother's life on Wednesday. "I hated that it ended this way for him, but God just wanted him to go," said 14-year-old Jesse Blanton, as tears ran down his face. Blanton is the younger brother of David Shawn Blanton Jr., whom his family called Shawn. Shawn Blanton was a trooper with the North Carolina Highway Patrol. Officials said Shawn Blanton was conducting a traffic stop on Tuesday night on Interstate 40 in Haywood County. They said he stopped a truck being driven by 37-year-old Edwardo Wong. Troopers said Wong and Shawn Blanton got into an argument. They said Wong pulled out a weapon and shot Blanton twice – once in the shoulder and once in the wrist. Wong jumped back in his truck and took off. He was arrested about a mile away from the scene of the shooting. Officials said Shawn Blanton was rushed to Mission Hospitals but he did not survive. "I'm going to miss him," said Jesse Blanton. "I love him so much and he knows it." Jesse said he and his brother built a special bond. He said he remembers the last words he spoke to Shawn Blanton. "I was asking him when he went into work and what time he got off," Jesse said. However, Jesse said 12 hours after speaking to his brother, his life changed forever. "The doctor just said he didn't make it and that was the worst feeling I've ever had," Jesse said. Jesse said his big brother wanted to give something back to the community. He said Shawn Blanton became a state trooper two years ago. "He was out there to serve his community," Jesse said. "He cared for everyone. He was the best person ever." **Memorial Services Scheduled For Blanton:** Blanton's family announced funeral arrangements for him on Wednesday afternoon. The family will receive friends from 5 to 9 p.m. on Friday at Wells Funeral home in Canton. Blanton's funeral has been scheduled from 11 a.m. Saturday at George R. Stuart Auditorium at the Lake Junaluska Conference Center. **Blanton Survived By Wife, Newborn Son:** Blanton was from Cherokee, N.C., and had been with the Highway Patrol for two years, officials said. Blanton's father, David Blanton Sr., said his son was a member of the eastern band of the Cherokee Indian tribe. He was the first of that tribe to serve with the Highway Patrol, he said. The elder Blanton said his son had recently married and had one child, who was born premature on May 31. The baby boy had medical issues when he was born and was still being treated at the same hospital where his father died Tuesday night. In a brief statement released through the hospital, Blanton's wife, Michaela Blanton, talked about their newborn son, who is listed in serious condition. "We sincerely appreciate all of the prayers for our family and especially for our son Tye," Michaela Blanton said. A memorial fund has been set up for Blanton's son at the North Carolina State Employees Credit Union. Donations to the "Michaela Nicole Blanton FBO Brendan Tye Blanton" fund can be made at any branch. Donations can also be sent to SECU c/o Michaela Nicole Blanton FBO Brendan Tye Blanton, P.O. Box 97, Waynesville, NC 28786. **Wong Appears In Haywood County Courtroom:** Wong appeared in a Haywood County courtroom just after 2 p.m. Wednesday for a bond hearing. He said little as he was escorted by officers into the courtroom. The judge informed Wong that he was charged with first-degree murder and told him that the maximum punishment for that charge is death by lethal injection if he is found guilty. The judge denied bond for Wong and set a probable cause hearing date for July 9. Wong, wearing a bright orange jump suit, was escorted back out of the courtroom by officers. **Suspect Has Lengthy Criminal Record:** According to the Florida Department of Corrections' Web site, this is not Wong's first run-in with the law. The Web site lists several charges in Wong's file including gun charges, drug charges, assault charges and burglary charges. Most of the charges were filed between 1996 and 1998. The Web site said Wong began serving a prison sentence on Feb. 4, 1998, and was released from prison on Aug. 5, 2005.

June 19, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 19, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Police said they believe middle school students are responsible for painting graffiti on a Greenville County church. The vandalism happened at the Riverside Baptist Church, as well as, a nearby dentist's office on Tuesday night. Police said the vandals spray-painted messages, Swastikas and other symbols on the church and office. "They painted graffiti on the side of the church," said Pastor Marcus Buckley. "They didn't know quite what they were doing because some of them (the Swastikas) were right and some were backwards. Investigators used surveillance video from the dentist's office to help identify the vandals. Police arrested three juveniles in the case. Their names have not been released because of their age. Buckley said he would happy to have the children attend church with their families.

June 19, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 19, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Officials issued an Amber Alert on Wednesday for a teenager reported missing from Rockingham County. Authorities were looking for 17-year-old William Alexander Benitez. They said he was abducted by force. Benitez was described as Hispanic, 5 feet 7 inches tall and weighing 162 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes. He was last seen wearing a blue-striped shirt and jeans. Authorities said they believe Benitez was taken by 18-year-old Antonio Granado. There was no description of him released. Authorities said Benitez was taken from 151 Stephanie Lane in Madison, N.C., around 1 p.m. Wednesday. The victim and his suspected abductor were last seen traveling on U.S. 220 South in a Honda Accord, officials said. They said that car was found crashed so they believe the two are traveling in a red car of unknown make and model. Officials said they believe the two are headed for Houston, Texas. Anyone with information on this case should call the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office at 336-634-3030.

June 23, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 23, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Police said three teens were injured and another killed after a shooting at an apartment complex early Sunday morning. Police said someone pulled up to the apartments and opened fire on the group of teens standing outside. They said 23 shell casings were recovered from the scene of the shooting. Police said they do not have a motive for the shooting yet. "At this particular complex, we have very few problems," said Lt. Mike Walters of Anderson police. "It's not a high crime area. This appears to be an isolated incident." Police said 16-year-old Jerry Mattison died about five hours after the shooting after he suffered a gunshot wound to his chest. Police asked anyone with information on this case to call the Anderson Police Department.

June 23, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 23, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Deputies are trying to figure out how a 16-year-old boy was shot while standing on his porch. The shooting happened at a home on Old Canaan Road around 2 a.m. Sunday. Deputies said the boy was sitting on his front porch when his mother heard him yell at someone. They said the mother then heard two or three shots. Deputies said the boy came inside the home and said he thought he had been shot, but that he felt fine. They said he told his family not to call law enforcement or an ambulance. His family took the boy to the hospital where he was treated for a gunshot wound to his arm, deputies said. The boy told deputies that he did not see anyone or see any cars in the area at the time of the shooting. Deputies asked anyone with information in this case to call the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office.

Attachments



Education

**PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED
SECOND QUARTER 2008**

Problem/Need: **EDUCATION**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
April 1, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 1, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: According to the South Carolina Highway Patrol someone dies in a drunken driving crash every 31 minutes in the United States. That was one of the reasons Oconee County brought all of its high schools together for a film festival aimed at preventing teens from drinking and driving. As part of the program, several students from each high school created movies to raise awareness about drinking and driving. All aspects of the filmmaking process, from writing dialogue to videotaping and editing, was done by students. Tamassee-Salem took home the award for best film, and the team received a \$250 cash prize. Walhalla received an award for best cinematography and, along with it, a \$100 prize.

April 5, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 5, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Security has been increased at a Simpsonville middle school after a student was arrested and suspended for wearing a T-shirt with a noose and a reference to the Ku Klux Klan. Some students at Bryson Middle School said they stayed home Friday, fearing violence after the T-shirt worn by an eighth-grader angered both black and white students the day before. The student lifted another shirt revealing the racist T-shirt in the lunchroom. The student has been charged with disturbing school and recommended for expulsion. Police said rumors are spreading at the school and on the Internet about possible violence over the shirt.

April 8, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 8, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Five Philadelphia elementary schools replaced sodas with fruit juice. They scaled back snacks and banished candy. They handed out raffle tickets for wise food choices. They spent hours teaching kids, their parents and teachers about good nutrition. What have they got to show for it? The number of kids who got fat during the two-year experiment was half the number of kids who got fat in schools that didn't make those efforts. "It's a really dramatic effect from a public health point of view. That's the good [news](#)," said Gary Foster, director of the Center for Obesity Research and Education at Temple University. He is also the lead author of the Philadelphia schools study being published Monday in the April issue of Pediatrics. The bad news: There were still plenty of new overweight kids in the five schools. More than 7 percent of them became overweight, compared to the 15 percent in the schools that didn't make changes. "That signals to me that we have lots more work to do," said Foster. Schools are ideal settings for programs that target childhood obesity, the researchers noted. Children spend long hours each day at schools and eat lunch and often breakfast at school. But school-based programs have had mixed results. The Philadelphia study put to the test a program developed by the Food Trust, a local nonprofit which works to improve access to affordable, healthy food. Ten schools enrolled in the government-funded study in 2002, and half made the changes. Since then, many of the modifications have been carried out at most of Philadelphia's schools, according to Joan Nachmani, the district's director of nutrition education and one of the researchers. She said such studies help people "wake up and realize it can be done on a larger scale." The 1,349 students in the study were in grades four to six. At the start, about 40 percent were overweight or obese. Many received free or subsidized meals. For the study, changes were made to the food in vending machines or the cafeteria in five of the schools. Juice, water and low-fat milk replaced sodas. Snacks had to meet limits for fat, salt and sugar. Students who ate healthy snacks got raffle tickets to win prizes such as bikes and jump ropes. "We found when you give children healthy choices, they pick them," said Grace McGinley, school nurse at Francis

Hopkinson School, one of the test schools. Staff and students had lessons on good nutrition. The message was reinforced in other subjects: food labels were used to help teach fractions. And parents were also enlisted: a fundraiser successfully substituted fruit salad for baked goods, said another of the researchers, Sandy Sherman, the Food Trust's director of nutrition education. She said the children were also urged to exercise at activity stations during recess. They were measured and weighed periodically and surveyed about food and exercise. After two years, besides fewer new overweight children, the overall number of overweight students at the five schools dropped about 10 percent to 15 percent. At the no-change schools, the number of overweight children rose a quarter to 20 percent. There was no difference between school groups in new obese students (6 percent) or the overall number of obese (about 25 percent). Obese children probably benefit more from individually targeted efforts, Foster said. Mike Prelep of the UCLA School of Public [Health](#) said the study design was rigorous and the results interesting. "One intervention usually won't work for everyone," he said. "That's why it's good to have multiple approaches." The researchers said their findings suggest such programs should start earlier, include gym classes and food sources outside school. Temple University and the Food Trust are now working with corner stores to get them to offer more cutup fruits and vegetables, water, and single-serving snacks. Sherman said they found that local students spend about \$2 a day buying snacks that average 600 calories. Last week, a group of fourth-graders at Fairhill School graded their corner stores during a nutrition class. Crystal Hernandez, 10, said her local store got the top green score while 9-year-old Gabrielle Hudnell's store got a cautionary yellow. "My mom buys healthy foods now," said Gabrielle. "We have three packs of strawberries, grapes and bananas." Their favorite snack? Well, potato chips. "I get the little bag," Crystal was quick to add.

April 9, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 9, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Police and students at Clemson University teamed up on Wednesday night for their annual "Safety Walk." Groups walked through the campus and looked for any problems that might pose a risk to the public's safety. Walkers checked emergency phones throughout campus and made sure lights were working. They also looked for any improvements they think could be made to make the campus more secure. "There are certain areas that aren't as well lit as they should be," said Kyle Shoemaker, a Clemson student. "Walking back home late from the library, you wish you could see where you are going." Most students said they feel safe on campus. However, they said with a campus as large as Clemson and so many wooded areas, there are always improvements that can be made.

April 10, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 10, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: President George W. Bush has been scheduled to speak at Furman University's graduation ceremony next month. White House spokesman Blair Jones said Thursday that Bush will give the school's commencement address on May 31. South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford is a 1983 Furman graduate. Jones said Sanford suggested his alma mater to the president, and Furman students unanimously endorsed the invitation. The White House said Bush is also scheduled to speak at graduation ceremonies for the U.S. Air Force Academy and Greensburg High School, the Kansas school devastated by a tornado last year. Furman officials said a sitting president has never visited the school in its 182-year history.

April 21, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 21, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Police guarded the doors Monday morning at Chesterfield High School as students arrived for their first day since a classmate was accused of plotting to bomb the building. Metal detectors were installed over the weekend after police say a Columbine-inspired attack was thwarted. Ryan Schallenberger, 18, was arrested

Saturday. His parents called police after 10 pounds of ammonium nitrate were delivered to their home and they found a disturbing journal. Police Chief Randall Lear said about 17 officers are trying to keep things as normal as possible by keeping unauthorized people away from the building. Michael Wattson, a parent of a Chesterfield High School student, said the weekend's police work made him confident about sending his sophomore son to class at the school on Monday. Police said a bomb-sniffing dog checked the school twice over the weekend and found nothing suspicious. They also said they believe Schallenberger was acting alone. A court hearing for Schallenberger is expected Monday afternoon.

April 23, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 23, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: School officials said a report of a suspicious person near Oakview Elementary on Wednesday caused concern, but that the school was never in lockdown. Oby Lyles with Greenville County Schools said children who were outside the main building were taken inside as a precaution after someone reported seeing someone walk into the woods near the school. Deputies said they were called to the school to investigate the report. Some parents waiting to pick up children at the school said the students were not released on time and that buses were held until the all clear was sounded. No one was injured in the incident.

April 23, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 23, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Orangeburg Massacre survivor Cleveland Sellers has been named president of Voorhees College. School spokeswoman Teesa Brunson said trustees at the historically black, four-year liberal arts college made the announcement Tuesday. Sellers is retiring from his job as director of the [University of South Carolina's](#) African American Studies Program in June. Sellers did not immediately return a phone message left at his home by the Associated Press on Tuesday. Sellers was a civil rights demonstrator at the former [South Carolina](#) State College in Orangeburg in February 1968 when three students were gunned down and 27 others wounded by state troopers. Sellers was the only person convicted in the incident but was pardoned decades later.

April 28, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 28, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: An elementary school science teacher from Anderson School District 5 has been named [South Carolina](#) Teacher of the Year. Jenna Hallman said people have been telling her she would become a teacher all her life. However, she said she was studying something else in college when a job at a day care changed her mind. She told the Anderson Independent-Mail that while the honor is nice, she loves even more the looks on her students' faces when they figure something out. Hallman has been a teacher for 10 years. She currently works at Calhoun Academy for the Arts. Hallman won \$25,000 and the use of a 2007 BMW Z-4 Roadster for one year. Hallman also goes on to compete for National Teacher of the Year.

April 29, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 29, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Troopers said at least five people were hurt when a school bus collided with a truck on Tuesday morning. The crash happened at the intersection of Clark and West Parker roads around 8:15 a.m. The [South Carolina](#) Highway Patrol said a school bus belonging to the Share Headstart Program was traveling on West Parker when a truck tried to cross the street in front of it. The driver of the bus, Catisha Griffin, another adult and three

students on the bus were all taken to the hospital, troopers said. They said none of their injuries were serious. The driver of the truck, Jason Davenport, was ticketed for failure to yield the right of way.

April 29, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 29, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: A Texas test-preparation company accused of improperly using SAT and PSAT practice questions to help prepare its customers will pay \$1 million to settle a lawsuit brought by the tests' owner, including a donation of \$400,000 worth of tutoring for low-income high school students. The College Board, which owns the SAT and PSAT exams and had sued Dallas-based Karen Dillard's College Prep in February for trademark violations, also said Tuesday it would accept the PSAT or SAT scores of students who worked with the company. The College Board had previously suggested some scores might be canceled because the company had allowed students to practice on "live" test questions that had not been officially retired from use on actual exams, and which were not supposed to be circulating for practice. At the time of the suit, company owner Karen Dillard and her attorney accused the College Board of using a copyright case to try to bully aside competitors for its own test-prep products. But on Tuesday, the company issued a statement in Karen Dillard's name saying, "We recognize now that KDCP should have been more careful in handling College Board materials, and going forward KDCP is committed to respecting the College Board's intellectual property rights. This settlement affords us the opportunity to provide our services to students who might otherwise be unable to take our courses." Laurence Bunin, senior vice president of operations for the College Board, said his organization "depends on the trust and confidence that high schools, colleges and students have in the integrity of our exams, including the SAT. That trust and confidence is jeopardized when tests are used in ways that are unauthorized and that put the test security at risk. "We believe that the settlement shows that KDCP acted improperly in copying and distributing a secure SAT test form and other College Board materials," he said. "We have demonstrated that we cannot and will not tolerate such conduct, and that we will take all appropriate steps to protect our tests."

May 2, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 2, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Officials said two Cherokee County schools have been released from lockdown after they arrested a man in connection with a shooting. Deputies said the lockdown was a result of shooting at the Peachtree Apartments on Killion Road, which is near school property. They said the ex-boyfriend of a woman who lives at the apartments pulled out a gun and fired at a Dumpster at the complex. The man then ran into the woods nearby. Officials placed Draytonville Elementary School and Ewing Middle School on lockdown while deputies searched for the man. Deputies called in bloodhounds to help search for the man. They said William Peay was arrested walking near the scene of the shooting. He was charged with criminal domestic violence, trespassing and illegal possession of a firearm. Officials said students and faculty at both schools are safe. No one was injured in the incident.

May 19, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 19, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The Higher Education Commission said more South Carolina college students are getting scholarships to attend school. The State [newspaper](#) of Columbia reported Monday that the number of South Carolina students getting state scholarships increased 37 percent over the past five years. The commission said that last fall, nearly 88,000 students used the scholarships to attend South Carolina colleges and universities. That's up from about 86,000 the previous year. The state increased the size of scholarships offered to the brightest students and those majoring in math, science and engineering last year. The scholarship program was created 10 years ago to reduce the number of students who left the state to attend college. Columbia Sen. John Courson said most of those students never returned.

May 31, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 31, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: President George W. Bush addressed the graduating class of Furman University on Saturday afternoon at Paladin Stadium. During the speech, Bush called on students to help build a culture of responsibility. He also talked about how he went into public service because he was concerned about the culture. Bush also spoke about the importance of service to other, including volunteering and military service and about being part of a faith-based community. The president also asked students to realize the importance of voting and being accountable to your family and yourself. At the end of the speech, Bush spoke about parenting, strengthening the family and living lives of integrity. **The President's Arrival** A crowd of cheering supporters, as well as, Gov. Mark Sanford and Sen. Lindsey Graham greeted the president at Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport. President Bush presented a medal for volunteer service to Andrew Barnhill. Barnhill heads up volunteer efforts at Furman. "It was really exciting, as someone interested in politics and public service to be able to meet a sitting president is a really great honor," Barnhill said. Bush waved to the crowd and had a smile on his face as he climbed into his presidential limousine to begin the motorcade to Furman University where he will address the graduating class. **Presidential Visit Timeline:** President George W. Bush will speak to the 2008 graduating class at the school during the commencement ceremonies on Saturday night. The visit has been in the works for months and the process began with a phone call to the president from a famous Furman grad. South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford is a graduate of Furman University's class of 1983. He received a degree in business. As graduation season approached, Sanford contacted the White House to suggest Furman be on the president's commencement address list. On March 3, Sanford's office contacted Furman's president, Dr. David Shi, to talk about the idea of a presidential address during graduation. Shi met with senior class leaders and several staff members to get approval, and the university decided to move forward. On March 10, the school sent a formal invitation to the White House and within a week Bush accepted the invitation. Furman University made a public announcement about the visit in April. Many faculty members and students at the school did not agree with the way the invitation was extended. They said they felt more people should have been involved in the decision making process. Several professors voted this month to "admonish" Shi for his handling of the decision. Some of those faculty members were granted conscientious objector status so they did not have to attend the graduation ceremony. Furman's commencement is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. at Paladin Stadium, the school's football venue.

June 19, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 19, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: University of South Carolina administrators are recommending a tuition increase of nearly 6 percent for the coming school year. The State newspaper reported the administration recommended Wednesday a 5.9 percent increase, from \$8,346 for the just-completed year to \$8,838 for the coming year. USC President Andrew Sorensen said the school is confronting rising costs, pointing to a \$1 million increase in the utility bill. Non-resident undergraduates would see tuition increase from \$21,632 to \$22,094 in the fall. The budget was presented to a board committee Wednesday, it will be considered by the full board June 27. The General Assembly cut higher education funding by about 3 percent for the coming year because of falling tax revenues. USC is losing \$4.3 million.

June 24, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 24, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: South Carolina's largest student lender for college says it has enough money for the coming year. President Chuck Sanders of the South Carolina Student Loan Corporation said the lender will close on a \$600 million corporate [bond](#) issue Wednesday. Sanders said that bond will meet the state's college student needs for the coming year. The Greenville News reported the [nonprofit](#) lender had about 60 percent of the money it needed earlier this year and had to search for money to lend for the first time in its 35-year history. The corporation provided \$492 million to 110,000 South Carolinians and students at South Carolina schools this year. Sanders said the corporation will continue to pay origination and other upfront fees on federal student loans for student and parent borrowers.

June 27, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 27, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: A large majority of Americans think schools are placing too much emphasis on the wrong subjects, and more than half think they're doing just a fair job in preparing children for the work force or giving them the practical skills they need to survive as adults, according to an Associated Press poll released Friday. So what do people think the schools should focus on? More than one-third said math. English was a distant second, at 21 percent. A tiny fraction picked art, music and the sciences, such as biology and chemistry. "I don't think math is getting nearly enough attention," said Larry Michalec of San Diego, who has a grown daughter. "When was the last time you added up something without a calculator?" Parents may want more math in school because they feel unprepared to help at home, said Janine Remillard, who teaches math-related courses at the University of Pennsylvania's education school. "Math is the subject that parents are often intimidated by," she said. "We've allowed a lot of kids to just say, 'I'm not good at math,' and those kids become parents." The economy and gas prices are the most important issues facing the country, according to those surveyed. Education was rated after those issues, generally viewed to be as important as health care. It was rated slightly ahead of the Iraq war. Among minority parents, education is just as important an issue as the economy. Minorities and whites [rate](#) schools differently. Fifty-nine percent of whites rate their local school as good or excellent, compared with 42 percent of minorities. Minority parents are more likely to think their children are getting a better education than they received as children. Overall, the majority of those surveyed said the quality of U.S. schools has declined over the past 20 years. Most think the United States is just keeping up or falling behind the rest of the world in education. On some recent international tests, U.S. students have posted flat scores and landed in the middle to bottom of the pack when compared with other nation's children. Nearly all those surveyed say the quality of a country's education system has a big impact on a country's overall economic prosperity. Americans have mixed views about standardized tests, which have grown in importance in recent years. The 2002 federal No Child Left Behind law judges schools based on math and reading tests taken by their students. Schools face increasingly tough consequences for scores that miss the mark. About half of those polled said standardized tests measure the quality of education offered by schools well, while the rest disagree. The vast majority think classroom work and homework -- not standardized tests -- are the best ways to measure how well students are doing. "I think the time spent doing all those exams could be better spent in additional class time," said Jamie Norton of Gridley, Calif., a dad to 5-year-old twins. School districts are increasingly tying student performance to teacher pay. Americans seem to support that trend. Sixty percent said the amount of pay teachers receive should be based at least in part on the performance of their students. The nation is split over whether teachers should be allowed to strike, with half thinking strikes should be allowed. Whether strikes are allowed is governed by state law. The AP survey of 833 adults and 854 parents of school-aged children was conducted June 18-23 and had a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.4 percentage points for each sample. The poll was conducted over the Internet by Knowledge Networks, which initially contacted people using traditional telephone polling methods and followed with online interviews. People chosen for the study who had no Internet access were given it for free. The research was financially supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The Associated Press had sole editorial responsibility for the design of the survey questionnaire and the analysis of the survey results.

Attachments



Environment

**PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED
SECOND QUARTER 2008**

Problem/Need: **ENVIRONMENT**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
April 11, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 11, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: City officials on Friday lifted the city's request for voluntary water conservation and said recent rainfall and conservation efforts have increased the area's water supply. City leaders said computer models and guidelines in its drought management plan were used when they issued the conservation request. They said the same models show the city's water supply within acceptable levels for the next 10 weeks. "While conditions in our area have recently improved, the city still encourages everyone to be mindful of our water source," said Water Resources Director David Hanks. Hanks said that recent rainfall has raised current water levels at the North Fork Reservoir above full. Hanks also asked residents in surrounding counties and states to make water conservation an everyday practice.

April 14, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 14, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: The National Weather Service said an inch of spring snow had fallen in one North Carolina mountain town by Monday morning, but that lower elevations are too warm for frozen precipitation. Doug Outlaw of the weather service office in Greer, S.C., said Monday that Beech Mountain had an inch and a trace was recorded on Mount Mitchell. Outlaw said the snow came from colder-than-usual overnight temperatures and a moisture-packed system along the North Carolina-Tennessee border. The forecast called for more snow showers at higher elevations until mid-morning Monday and rain elsewhere. More snow showers were expected Monday night as the system moved out.

April 16, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 16, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Winter rains may have eased the drought that has gripped South Carolina, but the state is not in the clear yet. The State newspaper reported that 12 counties in the state's northern areas are still rated as experiencing severe drought conditions. On Wednesday, the state Drought Response Committee downgraded more than a dozen of South Carolina's central and western counties to moderate drought status. The rest of the state is now in the least serious drought category, incipient. Last summer, state officials rated all but two of the state's counties as experiencing severe drought conditions. Experts warn conditions could deteriorate quickly as warm weather returns. The long-range forecast calls for above-average temperatures and normal rainfall.

April 22, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 22, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Nearly 300 firefighters from four states are working to contain a wildfire in western [North Carolina](#) that has burned more than 800 acres. The Asheville-Citizen Times reported Tuesday that the fire in [Pisgah National Forest](#) was about 50 percent contained. U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman Deborah Walker said the fire could grow to as many as 2,000 acres later this week as crews plan a backfire to prevent the fire from advancing. Firefighters from Idaho, Arkansas and Oklahoma are helping local crews fight the blaze. The fire is burning north of

Marion in McDowell County. Farther west in Haywood County, 88 firefighters have fully contained a fire that burned 425 acres.

May 5, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 5, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Environmentalists said they are dumbfounded about a real estate company's proposal to build a 200,000-square-foot water park in Buford while the state remains in a drought. Sally Bethea is executive director of the Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, a Georgia water protection group. She calls the idea "absolutely insane." A managing partner of Georgia Land and Commercial Solutions, Chad Lagomarsino, declined to give details. He would only say it will start off as a 50,000-square-foot indoor water park as part of a larger development. Georgia has entered the third year of its drought. Georgia is battling Florida over how much water the state can store in Lake Lanier, the region's main source of drinking water.

May 19, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 19, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: North Carolina lawmakers will review new rules on water usage, just a year after the worst drought recorded in state history. Gov. Mike Easley's office and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources have written a bill to set minimum state water conservation requirements during droughts. The Raleigh News & Observer reported Monday that the bill calls for automatic restrictions when water supplies drop below a certain level. Those restrictions increase as supplies drop. Cities would be able to impose more restrictions, but could not limit the state restrictions. Robin Smith, assistant secretary for environment, said the earlier moderate conversation measures start, the easier it is to deal with drought-related problems.

May 22, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 22, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Government forecasters expect the 2008 Atlantic hurricane season will see six to nine hurricanes forming, which they said would be near or above normal activity. Officials at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration project that 12 to 16 named storms and two to five major hurricanes could form. There is a 60 to 70 percent chance for the predictions to hit those ranges. This is the first time they gave a probability because some forecasters believe people pay too much attention to the seasonal forecasts. An average season has 11 named storms, including six hurricanes -- two of which reach major status of at least Category 3 with winds of more than 110 mph. Forecasters stress that residents should always be prepared no matter what the seasonal forecasts say, because even a slow season can be disastrous. Seasonal forecasts don't predict whether, where or when any of these storms may hit land. "We don't want anyone changing their preparation plans because of the seasonal outlook. The only number that matters is the number one, the one storm that you need to prepare for," said Dennis Feltgen, spokesman for the National Hurricane Center, which is part of NOAA. Last year, there were 15 named storms and six hurricanes, two of which were major. The government predicted 13 to 17 named storms, seven to 10 hurricanes and three to five major hurricanes. "Americans in hurricane-prone states must get serious and be prepared. Government -- even with the federal, tribal, state and local governments working perfectly in sync -- is not the entire answer," said FEMA Administrator R. David Paulison. "We must continue to develop a culture of preparedness in America in which every American takes personal responsibility for his or her own emergency preparedness," he said. NOAA's Atlantic hurricane season outlook will be updated on August 7, just prior to what is historically the peak period for hurricane activity.

May 28, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 28, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: State health officials were warning residents who live near a 13-mile-long chemical spill in Spartanburg County not to touch the substance because it could burn skin. Officials with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control said they believe the spill happened on Tuesday morning and that it was spilled out of a truck. They said they have some good leads on which truck spilled the chemical but would not elaborate on those leads. The chemical looks harmless, just a reddish stripe on neighborhood roads, but officials said the substance can still burn skin upon contact. FOX Carolina drove the length of the spill and found it on the following roads: Brookdale Drive, Highway 292, Little Mountain Circle, Little Mountain Road, Morgan Road, Newman Drive, Northview Street, Pinewood Drive and Wasp Nest Road. Most of the roads are in the Northview Acres Subdivision. Some residents said they are worried about what will happen to the chemical if it is washed off the road by rain that is forecast for Wednesday afternoon. Thom Berry, spokesman for DHEC, said the chemical appears to be electroplating waste. He urged parents to keep their children away from the substance. Berry said it's not likely that the chemical will harm animals, but he asked pet owners to keep a close eye on their pets if they come near the spill. Officials said clean-up crews from Atlanta are expected to be in the area later on Wednesday.

June 2, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 2, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: State officials have put together some information to help South Carolinians prepare for this year's hurricane season. The South Carolina Emergency Management Division is distributing its 2008 South Carolina Hurricane Guide. Officials said the guide includes important information for use before, during and after hurricane threats, including suggested items to keep on hand, evacuation routes and resources for shelters and animal care. The Atlantic hurricane season started Sunday and runs through November 30. Gov. Mark Sanford has proclaimed this week as Hurricane Awareness Week. To view the guide visit scemd.org.

June 13, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 13, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Officials are calling for immediate evacuations in parts of Des Moines, Iowa, including some of city's downtown. Police Chief Judy Bradshaw said major downtown employers will start releasing employees in stair-step releases to help clear downtown, Des Moines television station KCCI reported. City officials are calling for a voluntary evacuation. They want residents to leave the 500 flood plain area as soon as possible. Police are asking for residents and businesses to evacuate immediately. Des Moines Mayor Frank Cownie said the Des Moines River will crest in downtown Des Moines on Friday night. Cownie said the crest will start at 8 p.m. and continue through midnight and then a reduction is expected. The Des Moines River is expected to crest at or close to levee height. Officials urged residents to evacuate more than 200 homes north of downtown Des Moines for fear the Des Moines River will top a nearby levee. Cedar Rapids Submerged: A total of 100 blocks of downtown Cedar Rapids, Iowa are under water that's nearing the tops of stop signs. Cars are submerged and about 3,900 homes have been evacuated. Rescuers had to get some people out by boat. The sheriff said the town is "kind of at God's mercy right now." The town received another 5 inches of rain overnight, pushing up flood levels that not only broke riverbanks but shattered flood records. Rising water from the raging Cedar River also has forced the evacuation of a downtown hospital. Officials said 176 patients were being evacuated from Mercy Medical Center, including its nursing home facility. Patients started being taken to other hospitals in the region late Thursday night. The

evacuation was continuing Friday morning. Dustin Hinrichs of the Linn County emergency operations center said water was coming into the hospital's basement, where a backup generator is located. Elsewhere in Iowa, nine rivers are at or above historic flood levels following heavy rainfall. Gov. Chet Culver has declared 55 of the state's 99 counties disaster areas. Mandatory evacuation orders were in place as well Thursday for parts of Iowa City and Coralville. More than half of Iowa's 99 counties have been declared disaster areas by the governor and nine rivers are at or above historic flood levels. Parts of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Missouri are also experiencing high water. In Austin, Minn., the Cedar River has crested more than 7 feet above flood stage, swamping yards and basements but apparently triggering no evacuations. One resident, looking at 4 inches of water in his basement, said it looks as though they're getting a 100-year flood every four years. In Avoca, Wis., west of Madison, hundreds of people have been urged to leave their homes because of flooding along the Wisconsin River and streams. In southern Wisconsin, federal disaster officials were assessing flood damage even as more heavy rain moved into the area. The National Weather Service issued a flash flood warning for the Wisconsin Dells area, including Lake Delton, which overflowed and drained into the Wisconsin River earlier this week.

June 19, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 19, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Federal officials have put parts of five counties in the northwestern corner of the state in an exceptional drought -- the worst category in the U.S. Drought Monitor. The northwest third of the state is in extreme drought, and dry conditions exist across the rest of South Carolina. Forecasters said the state will likely be drier than normal through the summer. The National Weather Service says parts of the Upstate are as much as 20 inches below normal rainfall in the past 12 months, marking the driest period in more than 60 years. State Agriculture Department marketing specialist Brad Boozer said crops like corn, soybeans, peanuts and cotton are in a critical stage for growth and could be wiped out without rain. The state has planned a meeting of a drought committee at the end of the month to assess conditions.

June 23, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 23,, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Insisting that the energy crunch should be solved by innovation and market forces, Republican presidential nominee-in-waiting John McCain proposed Monday a \$300 million government prize to whoever can develop an automobile battery that far surpasses existing technology. The bounty would equate to \$1 for every man, woman and child in the country, "a small price to pay for helping to break the back of our oil dependency," McCain said at Fresno State University in California. McCain said such a device should deliver power at 30 percent of current costs and have "the size, capacity, cost and power to leapfrog the commercially available plug-in hybrids or [electric cars](#). The Arizona senator also proposed stiffer fines for automakers that skirt existing fuel-efficiency standards, as well as incentives to increase use of domestic and foreign alcohol-based fuels such as ethanol. In addition, a so-called Clean Car Challenge would provide U.S. automakers with a \$5,000 tax credit for every zero-carbon emissions car they develop and sell. "In the quest for alternatives to oil, our government has thrown around enough money subsidizing special interests and excusing failure," said excerpts from McCain's prepared text. "From now on, we will encourage heroic efforts in engineering, and we will reward the greatest success." The proposal comes as gasoline has reached a record cost over \$4 a gallon. That has boosted the price of virtually all goods and services, sent commuters flocking to public transportation and increased tensions between the United States and its Middle Eastern oil suppliers. "America imports about one third of its oil from Canada and Mexico and no one need worry about a reliance on friendly, stable neighbors, and partners in NAFTA. The Middle East and Venezuela are a different story," he said. "We import roughly a quarter of our oil from them, and they have a disproportionate impact on world prices. When we buy foreign oil from these and other sources, there are many consequences -- all of them far-reaching and none of them good. Worst of all, by relying on foreign oil, we enrich bad actors in the world, some of whom finance terrorists." Last week McCain suggested one way to ease supply

concerns would be to lift a federal ban on offshore oil drilling if individual states want to allow it. His Democratic rival, Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois, opposes that idea, saying it would do nothing to address immediate price concerns. On Sunday, Obama told a Washington audience he would strengthen government oversight of energy traders whose futures speculation he blames in large part for the skyrocketing price of oil. In his latest speech, McCain expressed exasperation both with the federal government and the private sector. He said rising costs during a time of stagnant wages evokes the 1970s era of "stagflation." Without blaming his fellow Republicans in the Bush administration directly, McCain said: "It feels the same today, because the unwise policies of our government have left America's energy future in the control of others." The pork-barrel opponent also blasted "a hodgepodge of incentives" for the purchase of fuel-efficient cars. "Different [hybrids](#) and natural-gas cars carry different incentives, ranging from a few hundreds dollars to four grand. They're the handiwork of lobbyists, with all the inconsistency and irrationality that involves," McCain said. Training his sights on Detroit, the senator noted Brazil went from about 5 percent to over 70 percent flex-fuel capability in its vehicles in just three years. At the same time, U.S. automakers -- who helped with Brazil's shift -- said it will take them longer just to reach a 50 percent goal. "Whether it takes a meeting with automakers during my first month in office, or my signature on an act of Congress, we will meet the goal of a swift conversion of American vehicles away from oil," McCain said in his remarks.

June 23, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 23, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: The water is still well above the banks of the upper Mississippi River, but residents of flooded towns and those protected by levees and sandbags can see an ending: The river is cresting. "It's quieter compared to earlier this week," said emergency management director Mike Lesley in Louisiana, Missouri, where sandbagging has largely ceased. This past weekend, he said, "I actually got some sleep." The river started cresting Sunday at Canton, Missouri, not far from the Iowa state line, through the lock and dam near Quincy, Illinois. Next up, according to federal forecasters, were crests expected Monday from Hannibal to Clarksville. In Mark Twain's hometown, Hannibal emergency management director John Hark said he was confident the town's levees would hold as the river begins to recede. Folks in Winfield, Missouri, and Grafton, Illinois, will have to wait a little longer, as forecasters said the river would crest there on Wednesday. A reminder the threat had not passed came Sunday in Lincoln County, Missouri, where a levee near Winfield overtopped and flooded about 1,000 acres and several homes. "It just blew through our sandbags," said Lincoln County emergency management spokesman Andy Binder. But he, too, was confident the secondary levees protecting Winfield and nearby Elsberry would hold. Farther down river, the river dropped a bit Sunday below crest level from Alton, Illinois, through St. Louis, Missouri, and down to Chester, Illinois. The Mississippi was expected to rise again to crest level by Wednesday, but to levels still well off the records set during the Great Flood of '93. About 80 miles south of St. Louis at Chester, the river was forecast to rise to about 10 feet above flood stage, which is more than 10 feet lower than the record. Still, the devastation is widespread: The storms and [flooding](#) that started in early June have forced thousands from their homes across six states, killing 24 and injuring roughly 150. Rural areas such as Lincoln County suffered the worst. There, more than 300 homes were flooded after more than 90 percent of the county's levees were overtopped. In Canton, hundreds of volunteers and National Guard members spent the past week using sandbags in a battle to spare that town's levee a similar fate. Volunteers were back out Sunday, searching for leaks along the earthen structure that appeared to be holding up, said Monica Heaton, the city's emergency operations spokeswoman. "Everything is in a wait and see mode," she said. Sporadic rains expected throughout the week in eastern Missouri and southern Illinois will be scattered and light and shouldn't increase the flooding hazard, said [National Weather Service](#) meteorologist Ben Miller. Miller said the river will start to recede after remaining at crest level for longer than initially expected. A series of levee breaches let flood waters spread over a wide swath of land in [Missouri](#) and [Illinois](#), and Miller said that water will take time to drain back into the river and flow downstream. "You don't have as high a crest, but yet you still have higher levels for a long period had [the levees] not broken," Miller said.

June 24, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 24, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Lem Dillard, a peach grower, said these days parts of his orchards are bone dry. Other parts are growing peaches thanks to irrigation. On Dillard's farm they are using water from the city of Greer to keep the peach trees healthy, which Dillard said is not cheap. "We're having to spend a lot of money, a lot of time and effort to keep them watered to where they'll grow and mature big enough to sell," Dillard said. Dillard said he has already spent \$1,000 to water the trees. He said they only irrigate the plants just before the peaches are picked. The drought is not the only thing that's making his production costs increase, Dillard said. "The labor situation has gone up," Dillard said. "Fertilizer has more than doubled in the past year. Fuel costs, everybody knows what fuel costs have done. All of the input costs are way up. The dry weather just adds an extra cost into your crop." Dillard said until the dry spell is over, he will do the best he can to keep his customers happy. "We are praying for rain," Dillard said, "and we hope others will too." Dillard said there is one up-side to the dry weather – the peaches are a little sweeter.

June 24, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 24, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Officials from the Department of Health and Environmental Control issued an Ozone Action Day for the upstate on Tuesday. State health officials said conditions on Wednesday will be right for ground-level ozone to be higher than normal, making the air unhealthy for some to breathe. Officials said hot, dry weather coupled with light winds allow pollutants to stagnate in the lower levels of the atmosphere. "When ozone levels are elevated, active children and adults as well as people with respiratory diseases, such as asthma, should limit prolonged outdoor exertion," said Myra Reece, chief of DHEC's Bureau of Air Quality. Reece said resident can help limit the formation of ground-level ozone by carpooling, staying in for lunch rather than driving a car to a restaurant, avoiding excessive vehicle idling and using mass transit systems in the area.

June 25, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 25, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: State Agriculture Commissioner Hugh Weathers said some farmers in the upstate are in dire need of rain. Other agriculture experts said recent rains on the coast have helped some crops, but not the corn. Weathers said in Greenville Tuesday the northwestern part of the state has been hurt by the drought. He said peach farmers are making only 50 percent to 60 percent of their normal crop. He said strawberries did well, however. Georgetown County Farm Service Agency director Kyle Daniel said the 100-degree days in early June and the drought have done in the corn crop. Daniel said many farmers had planted more corn because of higher prices this year. However, he said higher prices do not help without corn to sell. Horry County Farm Service Agency director Johnny Jenerette said the tobacco and soybeans can be saved with more normal weather patterns.

June 30, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 30, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: State officials meet on Monday to decide how they should respond to the drought. This comes after forecasters said the upstate is in a historic dry spell. Nearly two weeks ago, the United States Drought Monitor put several upstate and mountain counties in the worst drought rating on its scale – exceptional. The National Weather Service said parts of the upstate of South Carolina are as much as 20 inches below normal rainfall in the past year. They said this marks the driest period in more than 60 years. On Monday, officials with the South Carolina Drought Response Committee will meet to decide if the drought status for several upstate counties should be upgraded on the state's scale. The state has listed 12 northern counties in a severe drought. That is one level shy of the highest category on the state's scale – extreme. Officials said upgrading those counties to extreme could lead to water restrictions. Some farmers said they are worried that dry weather will

wipe out crops like corn, soybeans, peanuts and cotton. As of Monday, Greenville has received 16.56 inches of rainfall since January 1. That is 9.31 inches below the normal amount of rainfall for the area.

Attachments



Government

**PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM OR NEED
SECOND QUARTER 2008**

Problem/Need: **GOVERNMENT**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
Sundays	10:00 am	FOX NEWS SUNDAY

DESCRIPTION:

Fox News Sunday is a national weekly program with current events and political issues. (60:00)

April 1, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 1, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: A South Carolina state senator is proposing a 20 percent surcharge on magazines considered by the state to be obscene. Greenville Republican Mike Fair said the fee on magazines such as Playboy and Hustler would raise about \$385,000. He proposes that the money go to the state Department of Probation, Pardon and Parole to manage sex offenders. The proposal came up Monday as the Senate Finance Committee began working on the state's proposed \$7 billion budget. Senators did not vote on it, though Fair said he wants to take it up later.

April 2, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 2, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: A proposal to raise South Carolina's cigarette tax by 50 cents a pack and use the money to expand state Medicaid programs has been passed by a Senate committee. The tax would generate about \$160 million and when combined with federal funds will mean an additional \$500 million for the state-federal health insurance program for the poor, disabled and elderly. The Senate Finance Committee rejected plans to use the cigarette tax to pay for health insurance tax credits amid complaints that it would generate only \$467 per individual which would not be close to the typical \$4,000 annual cost. The tax increase passed on a 14-8 vote but faces a tough fight on the Senate floor as early as this week.

April 3, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 3, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Gov. Mark Sanford has signed a bill that lowers the minimum age for South Carolina residents to own a handgun to 18. Federal law still prohibits firearm retailers and dealers from selling handguns to people younger than 21. The state law now allows individuals to sell handguns to anyone 18 or over. South Carolina is one of 18 states -- and the only one in the South -- that had set 21 as the age for handgun ownership. The new law took effect as soon as the governor signed it. Proponents had argued that people who are 18 could serve in the military and carry handguns to protect the rights of others to own guns, but when they return home they could not own a handgun.

April 4, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 4, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: A South Carolina Senate committee has approved a budget that eliminates every pork barrel project the House approved last month and cuts \$50 million in spending. The plan passed by the Senate Finance Committee also gives state workers a 2 percent raise. That's up from the 1 percent raise in the House budget. The House plan cut most agency budgets outside of public schools and health care agencies by 2.4 percent. But Senate Finance Committee Chairman Hugh Leatherman said his panel's plan calls for average reductions of 3.6 percent. The full Senate will consider the budget in two weeks. Revenue collections in South Carolina through February are already more than \$50 million behind projections and forecasts look gloomy.

April 8, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 8, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: The Senate Finance Committee held an emergency meeting to begin looking for ways to cut its proposed state spending plan following the news that a weak economy has slowed South Carolina tax collections even more than expected. The committee is considering several ideas to trim \$40 million from the state's \$7 billion budget proposal. Sen. Larry Grooms suggested two-week, unpaid furloughs for state workers might be needed. Sen. Greg Ryberg said \$11 million for a state tuition prepayment program could be cut along with another \$18 million in grants for festivals and special projects. A shortfall projected by the Board of Economic Advisors was \$40 million steeper than what was forecast last week by state senators as they crafted the spending plan for the next fiscal year.

April 10, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 10, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: A bill that creates an alternative court system for non-violent offenders and requires prisoners to serve most of their sentence has been approved by a House panel. Attorney General Henry McMaster said a combination of counseling, treatment and education under the alternative court system is a better way to rehabilitate people and will save the state money. The bill he pushed would also require prisoners to serve at least 85 percent of their sentences. Parole possibilities for violent crimes were already taken away with a 1995 law. McMaster said truth-in-sentencing restores accountability in the judicial process.

April 10, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 10, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Deputies went undercover Thursday in an effort to crack down on underage alcohol purchases throughout the county. The operation started at the Carolina First Center, where investigators met and discussed their planned stops. "We're not trying to trick them or trap them in any way," said Sgt. Brian Donnelly with the Greenville County Sheriff's Office. "We're saving lives. That's the bottom line. We want to see them prosper." Investigators said teenagers often buy alcoholic mixed energy drinks, beer and flavored liquor. To make sure store owners comply with alcohol laws, detectives use underage informants during the undercover operation. "If they're carded they give them a real identification card," Donnelly said. Detectives made their first stop at a gas station on South Pleasantburg Drive. The clerk at the store sent the underage informant back out without an alcohol purchase. The next stop for investigators was a Sunoco station on Augusta Road. This time the informant walked out of the store with a mixed alcoholic beverage called "Sparks." Detectives moved in to ticket the clerk who they said sold the alcohol to the minor. The bust ended with the arrest of two people inside the store. The clerk was charged with selling beer to a minor and resisting arrest. His friend was charged with interfering with an arrest.

April 10, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 10, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: A House panel removed a proposal that limited payday loans to no more than a quarter of the borrower's income from a bill regulating the lenders. The committee on Thursday also doubled the amount that could be borrowed in the short-term loans. The moves have consumer advocates saying customers could be worse off than they are now if the bill passes. They hoped the proposal would end the worst practices of payday lenders and sharply curtail their business in South Carolina. Neighboring North Carolina and Georgia have nearly outlawed the industry.

April 15, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 15, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: A proposal that bans 15- and 16-year-olds from talking and text messaging on cell phones while driving is up for debate in a House committee this week. The measure makes it illegal for anyone with a beginner's permit, conditional or special restricted driver's license from using a phone or other wireless device while driving. In South Carolina, teens can get a regular driver's license when they turn 17. The bill is set for debate Wednesday. House members will consider exceptions for drivers using hands-free devices and emergencies. Under the proposal, teens caught driving and using a cell phone could be charged with a misdemeanor and lose their license for 30 days. A third offense could mean up to a year suspension.

April 15, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 15, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: A proposal to ban pit bulls in the city of Anderson is pitting council members against some strong opposition. The proposed ban, which was supposed to be voted on at Monday night's council meeting, would make it illegal for anyone in Anderson to own or care for a pit bull. Dog owners packed the meeting to oppose the proposed ban, saying they think the City Council is barking up the wrong tree. "(Pit bulls) have to be treated pretty horrendously in order to be mean. I think it would be terrible to ban pit bulls," dog owner Rhonda Simms said. The council decided to postpone discussing the ban until April 28 so they could research the matter more. Leaders said they would then hold a public hearing after that meeting.

April 16, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 16, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: The South Carolina Senate has approved a \$7 billion spending plan after a day of fights that left coastal lawmakers sparring for cash and ended with the promise of a 1 percent raise for state workers. Final budget deals were reached just after 10 p.m. after legislators from Charleston and elsewhere in the Lowcountry were promised millions to shore up spending for their schools. The lawmakers were also told that they would get more money for tourism promotion as soon as the economy turns around. The budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1 now heads back to the House. Within a few weeks, final deals could be worked out in a conference committee.

April 18, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 18, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Women seeking an abortion in South Carolina must be asked if they want to see their [ultrasound](#) images under a bill that is headed to the governor's desk. The compromise formally announced Thursday would require women wait at least one hour after the ultrasound before having the abortion. Sen. Mike Fair hopes women will use the time to consider the ultrasound and opt not to have an abortion. The measure was reached after more than a year of debate on whether women should be required to see the ultrasound. Gov. [Mark Sanford](#) has said he supports the bill generally but will review the specifics.

April 23, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 23, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: The [Republican party](#) in North Carolina is launching a television ad calling Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama too extreme for the state. Likely Republican nominee [John McCain](#) said the ad is offensive and asked party officials to pull the spot. The ad announced Wednesday raises the specter of Obama's former pastor, Jeremiah Wright, and includes a clip of Wright criticizing the nation. Party officials said the ad targets Democratic gubernatorial candidates Richard Moore and Beverly Perdue. They've both endorsed Obama. GOP spokesman Brent Woodcox said the ad will begin running statewide Monday. North Carolina's May 6 primary will divide 115 delegates among the Democratic presidential candidates and will also decide the party's nominee for governor.

May 1, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 1, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: State senators have passed a bill that would impose fines of up to \$10,000 for employers who knowingly hire an illegal immigrant. Senators gave the bill a key second reading Thursday evening with an agreement to give it final approval on Friday. It will then move back to the House. Senate President Pro Tem Glenn McConnell called the bill the toughest against illegal immigration in the country. Employers who fail to have proper paperwork on hand could face a fine of up to \$100 for each illegal worker. However, employers knowingly breaking the law would face a fine of up to \$2,500 for each illegal immigrant on the payroll for a first offense. The fine can be as much as \$5,000 for each worker on a second offense and \$10,000 each for a third offense.

May 8, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 8, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: South Carolina's Senate has dropped plans in a \$159 million cigarette tax increase to tie the rate to rising medical prices. The state's 7 cent tax is the nation's lowest, and senators agreed Tuesday to increase it to 57 cents a pack. Efforts to keep the inflation factor in the bill failed Wednesday on a 17-23 vote. Supporters said it would have helped tax collections keep pace with rising health care costs. The money raised by the tax will be used to expand health care coverage through insurance vouchers and the state's Medicaid programs for the poor. Opponents of the inflation proposal said there should be no automatic tax increases.

May 9, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 9, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: The governor's nominee to lead the Department of Public Safety will face questioning from senators later this month about how he plans to restore public trust in the agency. Senate Judiciary Chairman Glenn McConnell directed his committee's staff to prepare questions for veteran law enforcement officer Mark Keel. Confirmation hearings are scheduled to begin May 19 and last two days. Gov. Mark Sanford nominated Keel last month to head the agency that oversees the troubled Highway Patrol. Public Safety Director James Schweitzer and Highway Patrol Colonel Russell Roark resigned earlier this year after videos began to surface that showed trooper misconduct, including a trooper using a racial slur and threatening a fleeing suspect. Keel was formerly chief of staff and interim chief of the State Law Enforcement Division.

May 21, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 21, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: South Carolina House and Senate members hope to wrap up negotiations on the state's \$7 billion budget for the coming fiscal year. A budget conference committee of legislators from both chambers plans to meet again Wednesday afternoon. Major sticking points in this tight budget year include money for conservation, economic development and highway projects. House Republicans also want to push through an income tax cut for married couples, which would save couples an average of \$27 a year. The committee hopes to resolve the differences by the end of the week.

May 22, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 22, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: A bill that would increase the state cigarette tax for the first time in 31 years is on its way to Gov. Mark Sanford. The Senate agreed with a House change and gave final approval to the measure Thursday. If signed into law, South Carolina's tax would increase from 7 cents a pack to 57 cents. However, the bill faces a steep hurdle. Sanford is expected to veto it, and it is unclear whether enough lawmakers support the bill to overcome a veto. Under the bill, most of the estimated \$160 million raised would be used to provide health care for low-income residents. The measure sets aside \$5 million for smoking prevention and cessation programs and \$1 million to promote locally grown food. The rest is divided between Medicaid and a premium assistance program to help workers afford health insurance.

May 23, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 23, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: South Carolina is dedicating its first state veterans' cemetery in the upstate. The site is near Anderson on 57 acres of rolling hills. To be buried at the site, veterans must show records proving they served and were honorably discharged. They also must prove some type of residency in South Carolina. Officials said there are more than 400,000 military veterans living in South Carolina. The state got a \$5 million grant from the federal government to build the cemetery and will pay to maintain it. Two national veterans' cemeteries are located in Florence and Beaufort, but their space is limited. A third national veterans' cemetery will be built on Fort Jackson near Columbia.

May 27, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 27, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Gov. Mark Sanford vetoed a bill Tuesday that would increase the cigarette tax in South Carolina by 50 cents per pack. In a news conference held Tuesday, Sanford called the bill "irresponsible" in the way it would spend the extra money created by the tax increase. "We've been calling for an increase to the cigarette tax for five years, but the questions has always been, what happens to the money?" Sanford said. The proposed increase would have generated \$158 million a year. In the current bill, most of that new money would be used to expand Medicaid benefits and help give medical benefits to low-income residents. Gov. Sanford said Medicaid would actually need \$165.2 million to provide the same level of benefits to people currently using the health care system 10 years from now. "As a state, we ought to always be in the business of looking for ways to make our tax structure more competitive," Sanford said. "We continue to believe that money from a cigarette tax increase would best be used to provide meaningful and long-lasting tax relief to South Carolinians." Sanford has offered lawmakers an alternative use for the money created by a tax increase. He said he would like to see the money used to offset an optional flat tax, giving residents two options for paying their taxes. Currently, South Carolina has the lowest cigarette tax in the United States at 7 cents per pack. The tax was last increased 31 years ago. Lawmakers would need a two-thirds majority to override the veto. However, most experts believe that is unlikely since the legislature is controlled by Republicans.

May 27, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 27, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Gov. Mark Sanford has vetoed a bill that would have given a cost of living adjustment to the state's retirees. In a veto message issued Monday, Sanford said the bill was flawed and lawmakers have not made sure the 2 percent cost of living increase for retired regular state employees, judges and police officers can be paid for. Sanford said lawmakers should first reform the retirement system by closing the defined benefit retirement plan to new participants and moving back retirement eligibility to 30 years from its current 28 years. Supporters of the bill

said the plan's financial consultants have agreed with the method used to pay for the increase. At one time, the bill extended the benefit increase to legislators, but that was removed from the proposal.

May 27, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 27, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: South Carolina is getting a new state color. Gov. Mark Sanford was expected to sign a bill Tuesday morning making indigo blue South Carolina's official color. Joining Sanford in his office will be 9-year-old Lauren Cunningham. The Lake Murray Elementary third-grader proposed the bill. Indigo blue is the background color on the state flag, and indigo cultivation was one of the state's first cash crops.

June 2, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 2, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: The chief justice of South Carolina's Supreme Court said Gov. Mark Sanford's vetoes of millions of dollars for legal defense programs for the poor will clog state court dockets. Chief Justice Jean Toal said the vetoes of more than \$6 million in funds also mean taxpayers will be hit with increased jail costs. The governor last week vetoed \$72 million in proposed spending from the \$7 billion budget passed by lawmakers that takes effect July 1. Sanford said the money is needed for prisons and school bus fuel. He also said it made no sense to increase spending on indigent defense while decreasing spending on prosecution. Advocates for the poor said prosecutors already have a better than two-to-one advantage in spending. This scolding by the chief justice comes on the same day Sanford is making a trip across the state to promote his vetoes to the public. Sanford had stops planned Monday in North Augusta and Greer with local legislators. Legislators overrode four of Sanford's vetoes on Thursday and sustained three others. However, legislators said they may reconsider their vote to uphold Sanford's vetoes on Tuesday.

June 12, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 12, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: South Carolina's attorney general says displays of documents including the Ten Commandments should be allowed and would survive a court challenge. Attorney General Henry McMaster issued his nonbinding opinion Wednesday on legislation Gov. Mark Sanford is deciding whether to veto. McMaster said the Ten Commandments and the Lord's Prayer have an established place in teaching American constitutional history and civic virtue. He said they and other documents on display would teach morality, ethics and integrity. The bill would allow the Ten Commandments to be displayed in public buildings as part of a group of documents that helped set the foundations for U.S. law. Sanford last week allowed a bill to become law without his signature that puts a cross beside the words "I Believe" on license plates.

June 12, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 12, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: Gov. Mark Sanford has vetoed a proposal that would have given tax breaks for installing fire sprinklers -- a measure approved after a Charleston furniture store blaze that killed nine firefighters a year ago. The Republican governor said in a veto message late Wednesday the incentives amounted to a 50 percent taxpayer subsidy. He argued that subsidies like that undermine market competition. Supporters said sprinklers substantially cut fire deaths and property damage. The legislation left it up to local governments to decide if they would offer property tax breaks of up to 25 percent of a sprinkler system's cost where they are not required by law or code. The break would be matched with a state income tax credit.

June 24, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 24, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: The polls opened at 7 a.m. Tuesday for voters to decide 20 upstate races where there was no clear winner during the June 10 primary. State election officials said they do not expect a large turnout at the polls for the runoffs. They said voters who went to the polls two weeks ago must vote in the same party's primary and cannot switch parties for the runoff. Registered voters who did not make it to the polls for the primary can still vote in the runoffs, officials said. The races voters will decide during Tuesday's election are as follows: Abbeville

County: State Senate District 10 (R); Anderson County: County Council District 1 (R); Greenville County: State Senate District 13 (R); County Council District 18 (R), U.S. House District 4 (D); Greenwood County: State Senate District 10 (R), County Council District 4 (R); Laurens County: State Senate District 10 (R), U.S. House District 4 (D); Newberry County: County Council District 4 (D); Pickens County: County Clerk of Court (R); Spartanburg County: State Senate District 12 (R), State Senate District 13 (R), County Council District 4 (R), U.S. House District 4 (D); Union County: State Senate District 13 (R), U.S. House District 4 (D), State Senate District 17 (D), Sheriff (D), County Council District 3 (R); The polls close at 7 p.m. To track election results by county, check out scvotes.org.

June 25, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 25, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: The South Carolina House has unanimously overridden the governor's veto of a measure encouraging property owners to install fire sprinkler systems. Gov. Mark Sanford has opposed offering tax breaks, saying taxpayers should not subsidize improvements to private property. The House overrode the veto Wednesday with no discussion. It is among 20 vetoed bills the Legislature is taking up in a special session that started at noon. The limited session can last up to three days, but lawmakers said they will try to finish in one day. The Senate already has overridden three bills, including one that would double punishments for assaulting coaches and other sports officials. The measures all could become law if two-thirds of both House and Senate members approve.

June 25, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 25, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: South Carolina Attorney General Henry McMaster said the state's law allowing the death penalty for some child rapists is likely overturned by a U.S. Supreme Court ruling. The nation's highest court on Wednesday nixed a Louisiana law allowing prosecutors to seek the death penalty in similar cases. However, McMaster said South Carolina prosecutors planning death penalty cases against child rapists should proceed. He said by the time that case is appealed, there should be different justices on the U.S. Supreme Court or more states will have passed similar laws. South Carolina is one of only five states with laws on the books allowing the death penalty for child rape.

June 26, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 26, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

Description: The Supreme Court said Americans have a right to own guns for self-defense and hunting, the justices' first major pronouncement on gun rights in U.S. history. The court's 5-4 ruling strikes down the District of Columbia's 32-year-old ban on handguns as incompatible with gun rights under the Second Amendment. The decision goes further than even the Bush administration wanted, but probably leaves most firearms laws intact. The court had not conclusively interpreted the Second Amendment since its ratification in 1791. The amendment reads: "A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed." The basic issue for the justices was whether the amendment protects an individual's right to own guns no matter what, or whether that right is somehow tied to service in a state militia. Libertarian presidential candidate Bob Barr was quick to praising the ruling. "It will go down as one of the Supreme Court's most important rulings on behalf of liberty," Barr said. "Today's decision marks a new era for gun rights in America." The challenge to the ban on handguns was the biggest case left on the court's docket. It also is expected to resolve disputes over a campaign finance law and contracts negotiated during the Western energy crisis in 2001. The justices won't return to the bench until Oct. 6, the start of their next term.

Attachments



Jobs, Economy, Growth

**ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED
SECOND QUARTER 2008**

Problem/Need: **JOBS/ECONOMY/GROWTH**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>
April 4, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 4, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Fans in Greenville are catching baseball fever, and business owners hope it's contagious. As Greenville Drive fans celebrate opening day at Fluor Field, a new candy store was doing the same just down Main Street. "The west end is the end," said new candy store owner Sonya Stark. "It's the hottest place to be -- eclectic and fun." Stark said that after weighing out her options, she knew she wanted to bring munchies to the location, which is booming with new business and foot traffic. "That's what drives a business, families walking downtown. It's a walker's paradise with so many options," she said. And thinking about the thousands of sweet-toothed baseball fans nearby has her optimistic about her opening season. "I'm excited to see this place full, which it will be soon," Stark said. Liberty Taproom opened in July, so this will be the first Drive season that will be in full swing. Owners and operators are bringing their A game. "We have to have all our players in their spots, too," said Assistant General Manager Al Martinez. "We make sure we have enough product for everyone to enjoy and make sure we can make it as much fun as they're having over there (at Fluor Field)." Martinez said Liberty, and many of its newer neighbors, are ready to play ball with people who have come to the west end for a game. "(They) might want to leave later and have dinner with us or a pre-dinner with us and then go enjoy the game. Then afterwards, hopefully, the home team wins and everyone celebrates with us," he said.

April 4, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 4, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: About a dozen people gather at the Statehouse on Friday as part of a loosely organized nationwide protest by truckers demanding lower fuel prices. Holding signs near four parked rigs, some of the drivers warned of a possible strike. Six truckers in York County protested higher fuel prices by driving their rigs slower than normal. They were escorted by troopers to keep them from blocking traffic on Interstate 77. Drivers protesting around the country hope to pressure lawmakers to stabilize fuel prices by tapping the nation's oil reserves and pressuring oil companies to hold down prices.

April 16, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 16, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The dollar hit a new all-time low Thursday, its second record in as many days, as the euro surged to \$1.5982. The euro rose in late-morning European trading above its previous record of \$1.5978, set Wednesday. It then settled back slightly to \$1.5967. The dollar has been weighed down by a combination of gloomy U.S. economic data and high European inflation. **Track currency rates:** The British pound climbed to \$1.9771 from \$1.9708, and the dollar slipped to 101.96 Japanese yen from 102.04 yen. The euro gained strength on Wednesday from data showing that annual inflation in the 15-nation euro zone reached 3.6% in March, the highest level in 16 years. That appeared likely to muffle calls for the European Central Bank to lower its interest rate from 4%. The bank's primary mission is to combat inflation. More downbeat data on the U.S. housing sector Wednesday underlined the economic worries that have prompted the U.S. Federal Reserve to slash its interest rates recently.

April 18, 2008
April 18, 2008

10:00pm
5:00a-9:00am

The Ten O'clock News
The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: South Carolina's jobless rate increased slightly in March to 5.7 percent and employment officials said the state's economic outlook is uncertain at best. The officials said Friday that high gas prices, the subprime mortgage crisis and a possible recession are affecting job growth. The unemployment rate dropped to 5.5 percent in February but the executive director of the State Employment Security Commission said that was an atypical trend in a survey used to tabulate the numbers. The number of unemployed in March grew by 7,000. South Carolina's rate was still above the national unemployment rate of 5.1 percent in March.

April 21, 2008
April 21, 2008

10:00pm
5:00a-9:00am

The Ten O'clock News
The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The economy has soared past Iraq as the top problem on the minds of voters. But do the growing economic worries give a particular edge to any presidential candidate? Not so far, according to an Associated Press-Yahoo News poll released Monday. With growing layoffs, tight credit and an ailing housing market, 67 percent say the economy is an extremely important issue, up from 46 percent in November. Gasoline prices follow close behind at 59 percent. The war in Iraq -- the dominant issue for several years -- stands at 48 percent. "With our property taxes and the cost of gas and the cost of food now, it just seems like the economy is getting out of control," said Joan Sabers, 62, a retired [computer](#) programmer from Mechanicsburg, Pa. About two-thirds of those making under \$100,000 annually attach extreme importance to the economy, as do nearly six in 10 earning more. Six in 10 Republicans and three-quarters of Democrats do the same. Yet those who have become extremely concerned about the economy since last fall show no significant difference from everyone else in backing a presidential candidate. Both groups divide about evenly between Republican John McCain and Democrat Barack Obama, and between McCain and the other Democrat, Hillary Rodham Clinton. In addition, those who expressed most concern about their personal financial situations have done just what those less concerned have done -- they are a bit likelier to back McCain now than they were to prefer a Republican candidate in last November's AP-Yahoo News poll. People calling the economy extremely important lean toward the two Democratic presidential contenders, while those less concerned prefer McCain. The partisan divide helps explain that, as does income. Of those most worried about the economy, people earning under \$50,000 a year prefer the two Democrats over McCain, middle-income earners are divided evenly, and McCain wins the most affluent. Democrats divide between Obama and Clinton about the same whether or not they are extremely concerned about the economy. The survey's findings echo exit polls of voters in more than two dozen Democratic and GOP presidential primaries -- the economy is the top problem, but so far it's not driving votes. "That's not going to be a deal-breaker for me," Robert Michael, 62, a Republican from Fort Collins, Colo., said of how economic issues will affect his presidential vote. "I'm not sure what any candidate can do to improve the job situation." The AP-Yahoo survey of 1,844 adults was conducted from April 2-14 and had an overall margin of sampling error of plus or minus 2.3 percentage points. Included were interviews with 863 Democrats and 668 Republicans, for whom the margins of sampling error were plus or minus 3.3 points and 3.8 points respectively. The poll was conducted over the Internet by Knowledge Networks, which initially contacted people using traditional telephone polling methods and followed with online interviews. People chosen for the study who had no [Internet access](#) were given it free.

April 21, 2008
April 21, 2008

10:00pm
5:00a-9:00am

The Ten O'clock News
The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Starting their [careers](#) in South Carolina this year will get help buying homes. The Department of [Education](#) said the state Housing Authority is offering down payment assistance of up to \$7,000 for teachers who

make less than 80 percent of a county's median income. The incentive announced Monday only lasts for a year. Low-interest loans are being offered on homes with sale prices of up to about \$180,000 with the down-payment assistance. State Education Superintendent Jim Rex said the \$20 million program should help recruit teachers to live in districts where housing costs are high or near schools in poorer districts.

May 5, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 5, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: An aerosol valve manufacturer is planning to expand its Greenville County operations, creating 190 new jobs over the next [five years](#). The Greenville Area Development Corporation said Tuesday that New-York based Precision plans to invest \$50 million in its existing facility in [Travelers](#) Rest. The group said Precision is the world's largest supplier of aerosol valves, making more than 4 billion of the devices a year. Precision's operations director, Mark Ostrowski, said the investment includes the addition of more than 40,000 square feet of production space.

May 8, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 8, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: BMW's [chief executive](#) told shareholders Thursday that maintaining its operations in South Carolina is a long-term strategy. Norbert Reithofer said BMW must be active in the world's largest car market in order to be successful. BMW announced earlier this year that it would take advantage of the weak dollar by expanding production at its plant in Greer. It's spending \$750 million to expand facilities for its X5 [sport utility vehicle](#) and the new generation of its X3 SUV. The company plans to increase production in Greer from 160,000 vehicles a year to 240,000 annually by 2012. Reithofer said he wants to increase purchases from suppliers in South Carolina. He said North America purchases are being made for its plants in Europe.

May 12, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 12, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: [Career](#) experts at Clemson University and the University of South Carolina said Monday that the job outlook is good for this year's graduates. Deb Herman at Clemson's Michelin Career Center told The Greenville News there haven't been any problems in students getting entry-level positions. Tracy Powers at USC's Carolina Career Center said while the housing and financial services sectors have been hurt, for the most part, college hiring is up. The National Association of Colleges and [Employers](#) reports the hiring prospects this year are down. But Clemson graduate Alvin Bradley said he had to decide which offer to take after getting a master's degree in mechanical engineering. USC's Powers said employers realize they need to maintain their pipelines for future leadership as baby boomers approach retirement.

May 22, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 22, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Ford Motor Company announced on Thursday that it was cutting back its North American production for rest of the year because of gas prices and a weak economy. While it announced an increase in production for the Ford Focus, Fusion, Edge and Escape, the Mercury Milan and Mariner, as well as the Lincoln

MKZ and the [Lincoln MKX](#), it's cutting production of large trucks and SUVs in response to customers moving toward more fuel efficient cars and crossovers. "We are continuing to make great progress on our plan," said Ford President and CEO Alan Mulally in a news release on its Web site. "We are profitable and growing outside of North America, and our transformation plan in North America is working. The challenge affecting the entire industry is the accelerating shift in consumer demand away from large trucks and SUVs to smaller cars and crossovers -- combined with a steep rise in commodity prices and the weak U.S. economy." Ford said it now plans to produce 690,000 vehicles in North America during the second quarter, a further reduction of 20,000 units from previously announced planned production levels and a decline of 15 percent from the second quarter of 2007. The company plans to produce between 510,000 and 540,000 units in the third quarter, down 15 to 20 percent from the same period last year. Fourth-quarter production is expected to be between 590,000 and 630,000 units, down 2 to 8 percent from year-ago levels. The second-half production plan includes higher car and crossover production compared with a year ago and will be achieved through overtime and added shifts at Ford's smaller car and crossover assembly plants. Large truck and SUV production in the second half will be lower than a year ago, with reductions achieved through a combination of additional downtime, shift reductions and line-speed actions. Ford cited substantially higher commodity costs in forcing a change in Ford's near-term financial outlook, the company said. "Rapidly rising commodity prices -- particularly steel prices -- and higher gasoline prices that are accelerating consumers' shift away from large trucks and SUVs together are having a tremendous impact on our sales, our manufacturing operations and our profitability as we look to 2009," said Ford's President of The Americas Mark Fields. "Unless there is a fairly rapid turnaround in U.S. business conditions, which we are not anticipating, it now looks like it will take longer than expected to achieve our North American Automotive profitability goal," Mulally said. "Overall, we expect to be about break-even companywide in 2009 -- with continued strong results in Europe and South America." Ford now expects 2008 U.S. industry volume, including medium and heavy trucks, to be between 15 million and 15.4 million units. Ford, [Lincoln](#) and Mercury U.S. market share is expected to be about 14 percent this year -- supported by the introduction of several new products. "We are making great progress on the acceleration of new products, and our initial quality is among the best in the business," Fields said. "The new Focus, Edge and Escape have had significant sales growth this year, and the pace of our product introductions accelerates even further this summer." New versions of the Ford Fusion, the Mercury Milan and the Lincoln MKZ mid-size cars also debut later this year, as do all-new hybrid versions of the Fusion and the Milan.

May 22, 2008
May 22, 2008

10:00pm
5:00a-9:00am

The Ten O'clock News
The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Ford Motor Co. no longer expects to return to profitability by 2009 and is cutting North American production for the rest of this year as high gas prices and the weak economy continue to hurt sales, the company announced Thursday. The Dearborn-based automaker also cut back its projections for total U.S. sales in 2008 to between 15 million and 15.4 million vehicles. That's down from 17 million vehicles as recently as 2005. "Unless there is a fairly rapid turnaround in U.S. business conditions, which we are not anticipating, it now looks like it will take longer than expected to achieve our North American Automotive profitability goal," Ford President and Chief Executive Alan Mulally said in a statement. Ford (F) said it will cut production by 15% in the second quarter, 15 to 20% in the third quarter and 2 to 8% in the fourth quarter. The cuts will primarily affect pickups and sport utility vehicles, which have seen sales plummet in recent months. Ford plans to increase its production of cars and crossovers through additional shifts and overtime. But the company's mix of vehicles remains heavily tilted to trucks and SUVs. Ford had said in March it planned to cut second-quarter production by 10% and confirmed additional cuts at factories in Michigan and Kentucky earlier this week. But it revealed the full extent of the cuts Thursday. Production cuts hurt revenues, because automakers book vehicles as sold once they leave the factory. Consumers have been shifting to smaller, more fuel efficient cars in the last few months at a pace that stunned the industry. Through April, U.S. sales of subcompact cars shot up 33%, while sales of large SUVs were down 29%, according to Autodata Inc. Overall U.S. sales were down 8% in that period.

May 28, 2008
May 28, 2008

10:00pm
5:00a-9:00am

The Ten O'clock News
The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The Detroit News reported Wednesday that Ford Motor Co. will cut its U.S. salaried work force by up to 12 percent, or more than 2,000, as it tries to keep its restructuring plan on track amid slumping sales and record-high gas prices. The paper said that some employees were told about planned involuntary layoffs of between 10 and 12 percent during a town hall-style meeting on Friday. The Detroit News said that Ford has already eliminated 11,000 salaried positions in North America since the end of 2005 -- mostly through voluntary buyout and early retirement incentives. The newspaper didn't report how it learned details of the meeting. Ford spokesman Mark Truby declined to comment Wednesday about internal meetings, but says no final decisions have been made on layoffs. Madeline Eason, head of human resources for Ford's sales, marketing and service division told the Detroit News that were needed as financial challenges mount. "These are estimates. We're still in the process of finalizing some of the details," she said. "We just can't afford it," Eason said. "We're looking to be as humane ... as we possibly can." Ford announced last week it would cut production and no longer expects to return to profitability by 2009. Ford didn't rule out layoffs and said it would release more detail about cost-cutting efforts in July. In last week's announcement, Ford said it now plans to produce 690,000 vehicles in North America during the second quarter, a further reduction of 20,000 units from previously announced planned production levels and a decline of 15 percent from the second quarter of 2007. The company plans to produce between 510,000 and 540,000 units in the third quarter, down 15 to 20 percent from the same period last year. Fourth-quarter production is expected to be between 590,000 and 630,000 units, down 2 to 8 percent from year-ago levels. The second-half production plan includes higher car and crossover production compared with a year ago and will be achieved through overtime and added shifts at Ford's smaller car and crossover assembly plants. Large truck and SUV production in the second half will be lower than a year ago, with reductions achieved through a combination of additional downtime, shift reductions and line-speed actions.

June 13, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 13, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Denny's Corp. said it will eliminate 50 jobs as part of the company's move toward franchising and away from owning restaurants. Company president Nelson Marchioli told the Herald-Journal of Spartanburg that all workers will be offered severance packages and [job](#) placement services. Half the workers affected are at the company's Spartanburg headquarters, the other half are field-based employees. The company has cut about 150 positions since 2001 and now employs about 300 people in Spartanburg. Denny's owns 373 restaurants nationwide and has franchised an additional 1,177.

June 20, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 20, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: State officials said South Carolina's unemployment rate rose to 6.5 percent in May, the highest jobless rate in more than two years. The state Employment Security Commission said Friday the rate jumped from 5.9 percent in April because rising prices for gas and groceries led people to look for work again. Officials also said an expected increase in nonfarm workers in May was the lowest in seven years. The national unemployment rate also rose sharply in the same period -- from 5 percent in April to 5.5 percent in May. Allendale County had the highest rate in South Carolina at 14.5 percent. Beaufort and Lexington counties were the lowest at 4.4 percent. Only Cherokee and Marlboro counties reported drops in their rates.

June 27, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 27, 2008	5:00a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The millions of economic stimulus payments gave a massive jolt to household finances in May, sending after-tax incomes up by the largest amount in 33 years. The payments helped boost consumer spending by the largest amount in six months. The Commerce Department reported that disposable incomes, the amount left after paying taxes, surged by 5.7 percent last month. It was the biggest increase since May 1975, reflecting \$48.1 billion in rebate payments made last month. The surge in incomes helped boost consumer spending by 0.8 percent, the biggest gain since last November. The administration is hoping that the \$106.7 billion in stimulus payments being made this year to 130 million households will be enough to offset serious drags on the economy at the moment from a prolonged housing slump, a severe credit crisis and soaring energy bills. However, economists are worried that the boost from the stimulus checks will be only temporary and once the checks are spent, the risks of the economy falling into a deep recession will increase. Worries about the economy showed up in turbulent financial markets this week with [the Dow Jones industrial average](#) plunging by nearly 360 points on Thursday to the lowest level in almost two years. Investors were worried about the impact soaring energy prices and a slumping financial sector will have on future growth. The rebate checks are part of a \$168 billion package of tax relief for individuals and [businesses](#) that Congress passed in February at the urging of the administration in an effort to give the economy a boost and ward off the threat of a deep recession. The payments began on April 28 and are scheduled to be completed by mid-July. The Bush administration currently is resisting Democratic calls for a second stimulus package even though economists are worried that the effects of the boost will prove temporary at best. They fear the stimulus will fail to prevent a serious slump in the second half of this year as the economy's troubles from housing, a severe credit squeeze and soaring energy prices mount. For May, overall incomes rose by 1.9 percent after a 0.3 percent rise in April. Part of that increase reflected the portion of the stimulus payments that are going to low-income individuals. But the bigger impact showed up in after-tax incomes, which shot up by 5.7 percent in May after a 0.4 percent rise in the month before, reflecting the bulk of the stimulus payments, which represent a tax break for most households.

Attachments



Quality of Life

**ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED
SECOND QUARTER 2008**

Problem/Need: **QUALITY OF LIFE**

DATE **TIME** **PROGRAM**

Sundays 9:30 am TAYLORS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

DESCRIPTION: A church service that airs every Sunday morning. (30:00)

Sundays 10:00am DAY OF DISCOVERY

DESCRIPTION: A religious program that airs every Sunday morning. (30:00)

April 11, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 11, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Twelve upstate National Guard soldiers were scheduled to be welcomed home during a ceremony on Friday. The soldiers are part of the 218th Brigade Combat Team and are scheduled to arrive in Fountain Inn around 5:30 p.m. The South Carolina Army National Guard has also scheduled welcome home ceremonies in two other South Carolina cities. Seventeen soldiers will be welcomed home at 4 p.m. in West Columbia and 35 soldiers will arrive in Orangeburg around 4:30 p.m.

April 14, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 14, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Two law enforcement officers killed during a 2003 standoff in Abbeville County were honored on Sunday with the naming of a highway. Constable Donnie Outzs and Sgt. Danny Wilson went to the home of the Bixby family on Highway 72 on Dec. 8, 2003, over a land dispute. The family did not want their property taken for a road widening project. The two men were killed when they went inside the home to serve a warrant. That started a 14-hour standoff. On Sunday, a stretch of Highway 72, which has been widened to four lanes since their deaths, was named in honor of the two fallen officers. That sign reads "Sgt. Danny Wilson and Constable Donnie Outzs Memorial Highway." Family members of each officer gathered at the National Guard Armory to celebrate their lives and witness the unveiling of a new sign in their honor. "We're overwhelmed," said Marilyn Lee, Wilson's sister. "We're happy. We've always dreamed of this day coming. We're very honored." "I know dad," said Chris Outzs, Donnie Outzs' son. "He didn't want his name put out in a crowd. It's a great honor. He'd rather someone else take it, but it's a great honor." All three members of the Bixby family who were inside the house during the standoff were charged in connection with the officers' deaths. Stephen Bixby was found guilty of murder and sentenced to death. Rita Bixby, Stephen's mother, was found guilty of conspiring to commit murder and two counts of accessory before the fact of murder. She received two life-in-prison sentences. Arthur Bixby, Stephen's father, is still awaiting trial.

April 14, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 14, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: President George W. Bush is pulling out all the stops for Pope Benedict XVI. Bush will greet the pope at Andrews Air Force Base outside the nation's capital Tuesday. He's also bringing thousands of people to the South Lawn on Wednesday morning and hosting a fancy meal in the pope's honor at the White House. Benedict, who turns 81 Wednesday, won't be there, however. He will be at a prayer service with bishops at a Washington basilica. The Bush-Benedict get-together will be the 25th meeting between a pope and a sitting U.S. president. On Thursday morning, there will be a Mass at Washington's new baseball park. Later in his six-day visit, the pope travels to New York for an address to the United Nations and Mass at Yankee Stadium. Pope Protests: Aggrieved Catholic activists hope the pope's visit will help draw attention to their causes. David Clohessy of the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests said his group will call for disciplinary action

against bishops who covered up abuses by their priests but remain unpunished. SNAP also is calling for pre-emptive steps to prevent abuse by priests in other nations. On Monday evening, women who have been ordained in unauthorized ceremonies, including two who were recently excommunicated, will conduct what they call "an inclusive Mass" at a Methodist church in Washington. Gay Catholic activists plan to demonstrate Tuesday along the papal motorcade route in Washington

April 15, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 15, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Pope Benedict XVI arrived at Andrews Air Force Base near Washington, D.C., for his first official visit to the United States on Tuesday, and was greeted upon landing by President George W. Bush and first lady Laura Bush. After greeting U.S. church officials and dignitaries, a motorcade conveyed the pope and president's entourage to the Vatican's embassy. Earlier, as he flew aboard a special transatlantic Alitalia flight, Benedict told reporters traveling with him from Rome that he is "deeply ashamed" of the clergy sexual abuse scandal that stained the Catholic Church. And while the pontiff pledged to work to make sure that such abuse won't happen again and that pedophiles don't become priests, the White House said other matters will be on the official agenda when the pope meets formally with Bush. White House press secretary Dana Perino said the abuse scandal may come up in conversations between the pope and the president, though it's not a "top" priority. She said the two leaders will likely discuss immigration, human rights, religious tolerance and the fight against violent extremism in the world. Perino said the two also share similar views on abortion and tyranny. Bush plans to make the unusual gesture of greeting the pope upon his arrival at Andrews Air Force Base Tuesday. It's the first time the president has greeted a foreign leader there. The pope's six-day visit to Washington and New York is scheduled to be filled with high-profile events. A crowd of up to 12,000, larger than the gathering for Queen Elizabeth II, is expected at the White House Wednesday to greet Benedict on his 81st birthday. Benedict will give a speech at the United Nations during the second, New York leg of his six-day trip. He also plans to visit the site of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, and officiate at a Mass at Yankee Stadium. Those who have met Pope Benedict said the nation should expect a man who knows and admires much about the United States, but who also sees a culture in need of moral guidance. Former Boston Mayor Ray Flynn, who served as U.S. ambassador to the Vatican from 1993 to 1997, said he was amazed by Benedict's "curiosity and awareness" about what was happening in the United States, both among its 65 million Catholics and in the population at large. Flynn is among those hosting a birthday party for Benedict on Wednesday night in Washington, although it's not clear if Benedict will attend.

April 16, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 16, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: People poured into a Washington, D.C., stadium early Thursday morning, many hours before the pope will celebrate a public Mass. About 40,000 people were gathering for Pope Benedict's open-air service in the capital's brand new baseball stadium. Even before dawn, local subway service was standing-room only. Vendors offered Vatican flags and souvenir buttons, but there were few takers as people hurried toward the stadium. Many other people stood outside, with signs pleading for tickets. Organizers distributed the maximum 46,000 tickets but had requests for at least twice that many. A Virginia woman was among the first to arrive at the stadium. Barbara Loh grew emotional as she waited in the stands. She said she's been a Catholic all her life and seeing the pope has always been her dream. For the pope's mid-morning appearance at the stadium, a gold curtain and crucifix provided the backdrop for the largest stage yet on the pope's six-day U.S. visit. It's a setting the pope's charismatic predecessor, John Paul II, would have adored. Pope Benedict's substance is similar, but his style and personality set him apart. He's a soft-spoken theologian noted for a brilliant mind, but he's less the actor and performer than John Paul was. Later on Thursday, Benedict is set to address Catholic educators and meet with leaders of other faiths. On Wednesday, the pope confronted the clergy sex scandal head-on and with conviction in an address to U.S. bishops. Benedict called it a "deep shame" and decried the "enormous pain" that communities have suffered from such "gravely immoral behavior." It was Pope Benedict's harshest criticism yet regarding the clergy sex abuse scandal that has damaged the U.S. church. He told America's Roman Catholic leaders the crisis has sometimes been "very badly handled." Benedict's remarks came at a prayer service with hundreds of American bishops at a national shrine in Washington. Earlier, thousands turned out to see the pontiff on the White House lawn, where his 81st birthday was celebrated with President George W. Bush, complete with choruses of "Happy Birthday" and a

big cake. Benedict and Bush spoke in the Oval Office for 45 minutes after the ceremony. A joint statement said the two leaders "reaffirmed their total rejection of terrorism" and any use of religion to justify immoral and violent acts against civilians.

April 18, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 19, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The tough economy is taking a toll on retirement. With cost-of-living expenses hitting all-time highs and [Social Security](#) questions lingering, many Generation X-ers wonder if they'll ever be able to retire. While baby boomers say they are worried about achieving a comfortable retirement, a new study suggests Generation X is even more pessimistic. More than two-thirds of Americans ages 27 to 42 don't think they will ever be able to stop working, according to a survey published jointly on by Scottrade and BetterInvesting. Around 21 percent report they have no money saved, 40 percent say they have less than \$25,000 put away, yet many 27- to 42-year-olds [hope](#) to retire on \$1 million to \$5 million. "There's an element of wishful thinking that somehow it's going to magically happen. If they rely on the government or their companies they will be disappointed," Babson College's Peter Cohan said. There is a disagreement among economists on how big of a problem Social Security is. Some champion the system, saying funding troubles will not arise until at least 35 years from now. While others favor privatization-type reforms and argue that instant action is needed. "Baby boomers are sucking the oxygen out of Social Security. It's a huge issue," Cohan said. Cohan said that Generation Xers should regularly contribute to an investment fund and keep high-interest debt low.

April 18, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 19, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Newsflash for rock stars and teenagers: It turns out everything doesn't go downhill as we age -- the golden years really are golden. That's according to eye-opening research that found the happiest Americans are the oldest, and older adults are more socially active than the stereotype of the lonely senior suggests. The two go hand-in-hand -- being social can help keep away the blues. "The good news is that with age comes happiness," said [study](#) author Yang Yang, a University of Chicago sociologist. "Life gets better in one's perception as one ages." A certain amount of distress in old age is inevitable, including aches, pains and deaths of loved ones and friends. But older people generally have learned to be more content with what they have than younger adults, Yang said. This is partly because older people have learned to lower their expectations and accept their achievements, said Duke [University](#) aging expert Linda George. An older person may realize "it's fine that I was a schoolteacher and not a Nobel prize winner." George, who was not involved in the new study, believes the research is important because the general public continues to think that "late life is far from the best stage of life and they don't look forward to it." Yang's findings are based on periodic face-to-face interviews with a nationally representative sample of Americans from 1972 to 2004. About 28,000 people aged 18 to 88 took part. There were ups and downs in overall happiness levels during the study, generally corresponding with good and bad economic times. But at every stage, older Americans were the happiest. While younger blacks and poor people tended to be less happy than whites and wealthier people, those differences faded as people aged. In general, the odds of being happy increased 5 percent with every 10 years of age. Overall, about 33 percent of Americans reported being very happy at age 88, versus about 24 percent of those age 18 to their early 20s. And throughout the study years, most Americans reported being very happy or pretty happy; less than 20 percent said they were not too happy. A separate University of Chicago study found that about 75 percent of people aged 57 to 85 engage in one or more social activities at least every week. Those include socializing with neighbors, attending religious services, volunteering or going to group meetings. Those in their 80s were twice as likely as those in their 50s to do at least one of these activities. Both studies appear in April's American Sociological Review. "People's social circles do tend to shrink a little as they age -- that is mainly where that stereotype comes from, but that image of the isolated elderly really falls apart when we broaden our definition of what social connection is," said study co-author Benjamin Cornwell, also a University of Chicago researcher. The research rings true for 81-year-old George O'Hare, a retired Sears manager in Willowbrook, Ill. He's active with church, AARP and does motivational speaking, too. His wife is still living, and he's close to his three sons and four grandchildren. "I'm very happy because I've

made friends that are still living," O'Hare said. "I like to go out and speak in schools about motivation." "Happiness is getting out and being with people, and that's why I recommend it," he said. Ilse Siegler, an 84-year-old retired nurse manager in Chicago, has a slightly different perspective. Her husband died 35 years ago; she still misses him everyday. She has vision problems and has slowed down with age. Yet, she still swims, runs a social group in her condo building, volunteers in a retirement home and is active with her temple. These all help "make life more enjoyable," she said. While Siegler said these aren't the happiest years of her life, she's content. "Contentment as far as I'm concerned comes with old age ... because you accept things the way they are," she said. "You know that nothing is perfect." Cornwell's nationally representative study was based on in-home interviews with 3,005 people in 2005-06. While it didn't include nursing home residents, only about 4 percent of Americans aged 75 to 84 are in nursing homes, Cornwell said. It's all good news for the aging population. However, Yang's study also found that baby boomers were the least happy. They could end up living the unfortunate old-age stereotype if they can't let go of their achievement-driven mind-set, said George, the Duke aging expert. So far, baby boomers aren't lowering their aspirations at the same rate earlier generations did. "They still seem to believe that they should have it all," George said. "They're still thinking about having a retirement that's going to let them do everything they haven't done yet." Previous research also has shown that mid-life tends to be the most stressful time, said Cornell University sociologist Elaine Wethington. "Everyone's asking you to do things and you have a lot to do. You're less happy because you feel hassled." The new studies show "if you can make it through that," there's light at the end of the tunnel, Wethington said

April 25, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
April 25, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: The state Senate has approved a bill that would allow prayers before public meetings. The legislation said public bodies can adopt policies to let members take turns giving an invocation, elect a chaplain or create a pool of speakers from faith groups to offer the prayer. The bill also calls for the state [attorney general](#) to defend public bodies if they face constitutional challenges. The town of Great Falls lost a lawsuit filed in 2001 claiming it violated the separation between church and state when it used the name Jesus Christ in prayers. The U.S. [Supreme Court](#) refused to hear the town's appeal in 2005. The public prayer bill now heads to the House.

May 8, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 8, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: South Carolina National Guard officials said 265 troops deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq for a year are returning home Thursday afternoon. The troops are part of the 218th Brigade Combat Team and the 132nd Military Police Company. Officials said 65 soldiers from the 218th will first land at Fort Riley, Kan., on Thursday and will then be flown to South Carolina. They said 200 soldiers from the 132nd will first arrive at Camp Shelby, Miss., before being flown to South Carolina. Homecoming ceremonies have been planned all over South Carolina, including two locations in the upstate. Ceremonies were scheduled at both the Gaffney Armory, 410 Hampshire Drive, and the Fountain Inn Armory, 150 Speedway Drive. The Gaffney ceremony was scheduled to start at 4 p.m., while the Fountain Inn ceremony was scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m. Other members of the 218th came home last week. The group served as part of Task Force Phoenix in Afghanistan.

May 9, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 9, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: If a stay-at-home mom could be financially compensated, she'd bring home nearly \$117,000 a year. That's according to an annual pre-Mother's Day study released by Salary.com, which studies workplace compensation. For the past eight years, Salary.com has calculated mothers' [market value](#) by studying pay for tasks such as child care and housekeeping. This year's stay-at-home mom figure is \$116,805 per year, while the working mom figure is \$68,405. Both are down from last year because of a change in study methodology. The range of at-home value for a working mother varies from \$36,680 to \$104,767, according to the site. The numbers were based on a [survey](#) of moms who averaged a 94-hour workweek. If moms were in the workplace, they'd be spending more than half their working hours on overtime. Salary.com also [provides a tool](#) that allows you to calculate the value of the mother in your life and even cut a pretend check for that amount.

May 22, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 22, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: Police said someone stole a statue commemorating World War I on Tuesday night. Police said the statue was in front of the American Legion post in Anderson. Two stumps are all that remained of the statue that depicted a soldier on Wednesday afternoon. Police said they believe the thieves are likely going to strip the statue and sell the scrap metal. American Legion members said they statue was insured and should be replaced soon.

May 27, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
May 27, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: A soldier from Taylors was killed in a hostile fire incident in Afghanistan on Sunday, South Carolina National Guard officials said. Spc. David Lee Leimbach was a member of the 1st Battalion 118th Infantry stationed in Fountain Inn. Officials said Leimbach, 38, recently completed a tour of duty in Afghanistan with the 218th Brigade Combat Team and volunteered to stay and continue his service with the 2nd Squadron, 101st Calvary of the New York National Guard. "I am saddened by the news," said Maj. Gen. Stanhope Spears, adjutant general for South Carolina. "He was a brave soldier who served his country with honor and valor." Leimbach's family and friends spoke with FOX Carolina on Tuesday. They said that although they are sad about his death, they are proud of the sacrifice he made for his country. "He actually took the grenade, so no one else got hurt," said Don Skilton, Leimbach's brother-in-law. "Right at this moment I'm proud and just trying to keep back the tears," said Linda Skilton, Leimbach's sister. Leimbach was a member of the military for 11 years. Funeral arrangements have not been announced yet, but his family said he will be buried in Anderson.

June 2, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 2, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: A soldier from Taylors was laid to rest on Monday after he was killed by hostile fire in Afghanistan just before Memorial Day. Spc. David Lee Leimbach was a member of the 1st Battalion 118th Infantry stationed in Fountain Inn. Officials said Leimbach, 38, recently completed a tour of duty in Afghanistan but had volunteered to stay and continue his service with another unit. Flags across the state flew at half-staff on Monday, in honor of Leimbach's sacrifice, Leimbach's funeral was held in his hometown of Landrum. He was recently married and had moved to Taylors. Leimbach was buried at the M.J. Dolly Cooper Veterans Cemetery in Anderson.

June 23, 2008	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News
June 23, 2008	5a-9:00am	The Morning News

DESCRIPTION: A new survey finds that most Americans aren't prepared for retirement. According to a new study by Bankrate.com, only 28 percent said they will be able to retire comfortably, while 70 percent have set low expectations about their retirement prospects. Nineteen percent said they are afraid they'll never be able to retire. "Retirement is something that everyone needs to plan for," said Julie Bandy, editor in chief at Bankrate.com. "In difficult economic times, it's important now more than ever to plan intelligently. The long-term benefits of keeping an active retirement [fund](#) far outweigh the short-term gains of not investing." One-third of the 1,004 Americans polled said they'll have just enough finances to get by when they retire, while 17 percent say they will not have enough money to retire without worrying. Not all Americans are finding themselves in despair when figuring out how they'll be able to retire, however. Despite economic concerns, 16 percent of those polled opted to raise their contributions to their retirement fund. The vast majority of those polled have continued to see the value in a retirement fund, with only 8 percent opting to stop contributions altogether.